

# Case Studies for Radiant Cooling in Hot & Humid Climate

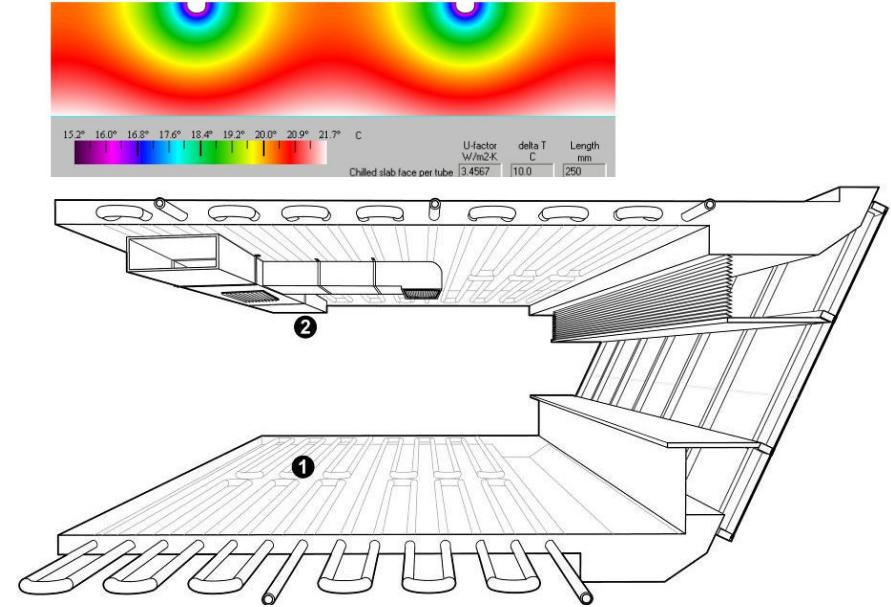


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Singapore | Malaysia | China



**DOWNLOAD presentation:**  
<http://ien.com.my/downloads/ACAT-IEN.pdf>

# Two Case Study Office Buildings in Malaysia

## “Energy Efficient Buildings” Malaysian stamp series

All buildings by IEN Consultants



**GEO**  
building

**DIAMOND**  
building

### Where?

Both located about 25 km south of the capital, Kuala Lumpur, in Bangi and Putrajaya, respectively



# Climate Data of Malaysia: Hot & Humid

MONTHLY DIURNAL AVERAGES  
ASHRAE Standard 55

LOCATION: KUALA LUMPUR, -, MYS  
Latitude/Longitude: 3.12° North, 101.55° East, Time Zone from Greenwich 8  
Data Source: IWECC Data 486470 WMO Station Number, Elevation 22 m

## LEGEND

### HOURLY AVERAGES

#### TEMPERATURE: (degrees C)

- DRY BULB MEAN
- WET BULB MEAN
- DRY BULB (all hours)

#### COMFORT ZONE

#### SUMMER

#### WINTER

(At 50% Relative Humidity)

#### RADIATION: (Wh/sq.m)

- GLOBAL HORIZ
- DIRECT NORMAL
- DIFFUSE

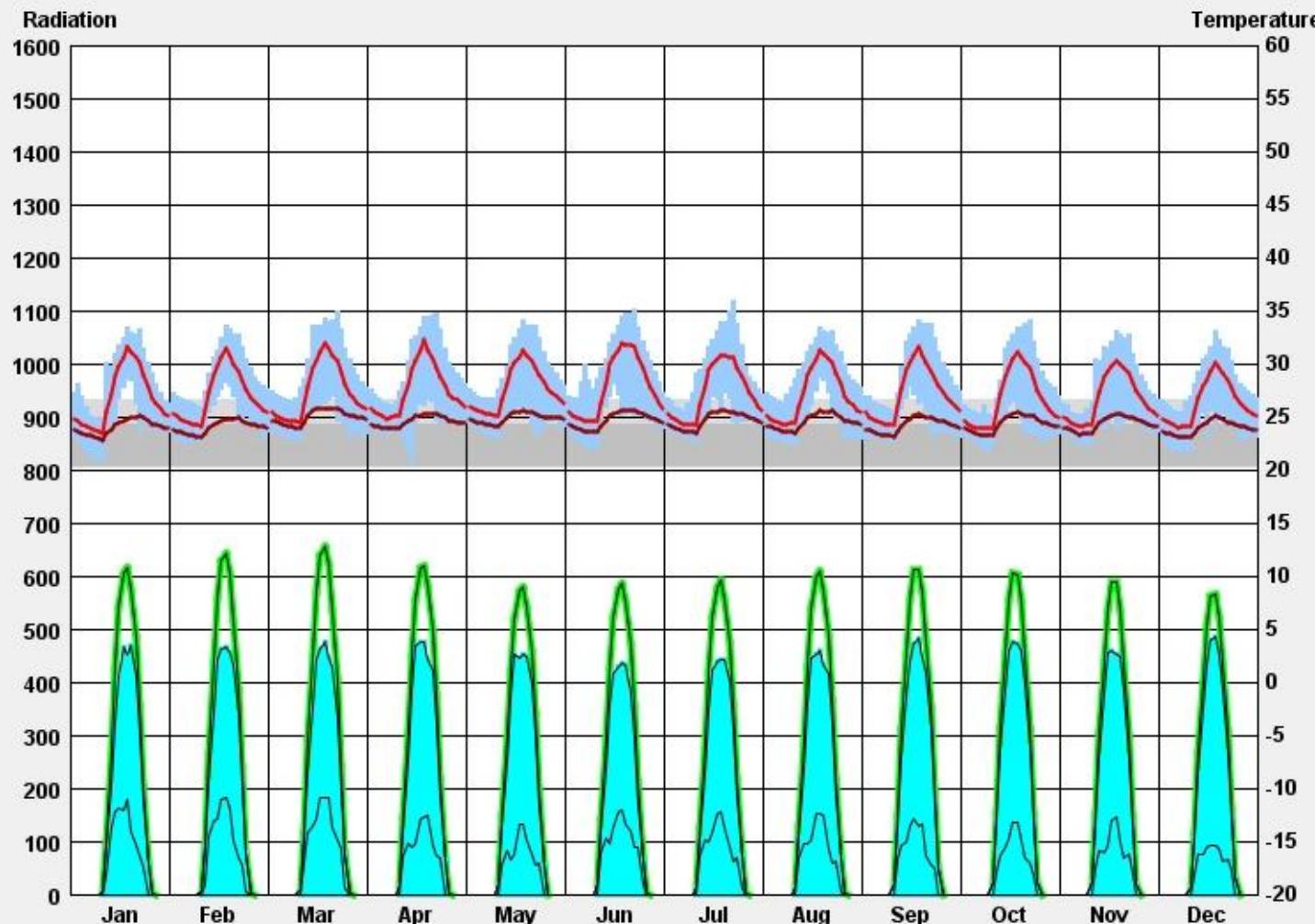
Display Dry Bulb Temp

(all hours)

#### TEMPERATURE RANGE:

-10 to 40 °C

Fit to Data



# Climate Data of Malaysia: Psychometric Cart

PSYCHROMETRIC CHART  
ASHRAE Standard 55

LOCATION: KUALA LUMPUR, -, MYS  
Latitude/Longitude: 3.12° North, 101.55° East, Time Zone from Greenwich 8  
Data Source: IWECC Data 486470 WMO Station Number, Elevation 22 m

## LEGEND

COMFORT INDOORS  
100% █ COMFORTABLE  
0% █ NOT COMFORTABLE

PLOT: COMFORT INDOORS

Hourly  Daily Min/Max

All Hours  Selected Hours

1 a.m.  through

All Months  Selected Months

JAN  through

One Month JAN  Next Month

One Day 1  Next Day

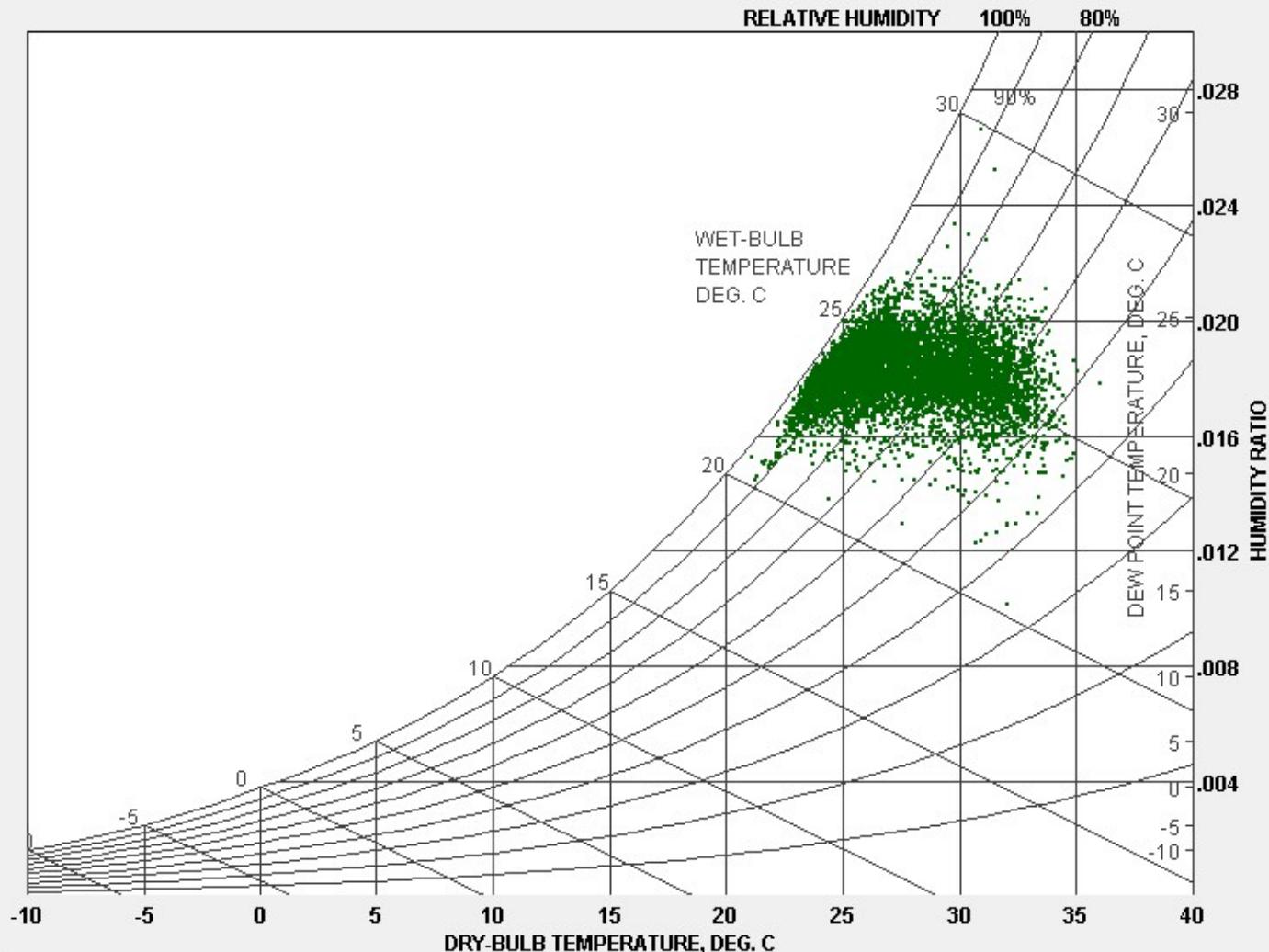
One Hour 1 a.m.  Next Hour

## TEMPERATURE RANGE:

-10 to 40 °C  Fit to Data

Display Design Strategies

Show Best set of Design Strategies



# What are the Climatic Design Issues?

Climatic parameter	In a cold/temperate climate	In a tropical climate
Sun	Our friend	Our enemy
Wind	Our enemy	Our friend
Daylight	Our friend	Our enemy (perceived to be hot, glaring and give unwanted solar tan)

## EXAMPLE: Air movement

- less than 0.15 m/s (cold climate)
- higher than 0.15 m/s (tropic climate)
  - Recommended range: 0.15 – 0.50 m/s
  - Do not exceed: 0.70 m/s

## EXAMPLE: Sun light / Daylight



**Cold climate**  
“Solar canopy” advertisement



**Tropic climate**  
Skin whitening advert.



Office case study in Bangi, Malaysia:

## GEO BUILDING

# GEO Building (formerly ZEO) in Malaysia

## Key data:

- Gross Floor Area: 4,000 m<sup>2</sup>
- Energy Index: 64 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year (excl. PV)
- Energy Index: 30 kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/year (incl. PV)
- Additional construction cost: 18% (excl. PV)
- Additional construction cost: 33% (incl. PV)



Greentech Malaysia office, Bangi, Malaysia (Occupation Oct 2007)

## EE Features:

- Daylighting (almost 100%)
- EE lighting + task lights
- EE office equipment
- EE server room
- Floor slab cooling
- EE ventilation
- Controls & Sensors
- Double glazing
- Insulation

# Energy Design Concepts

## of GEO Building

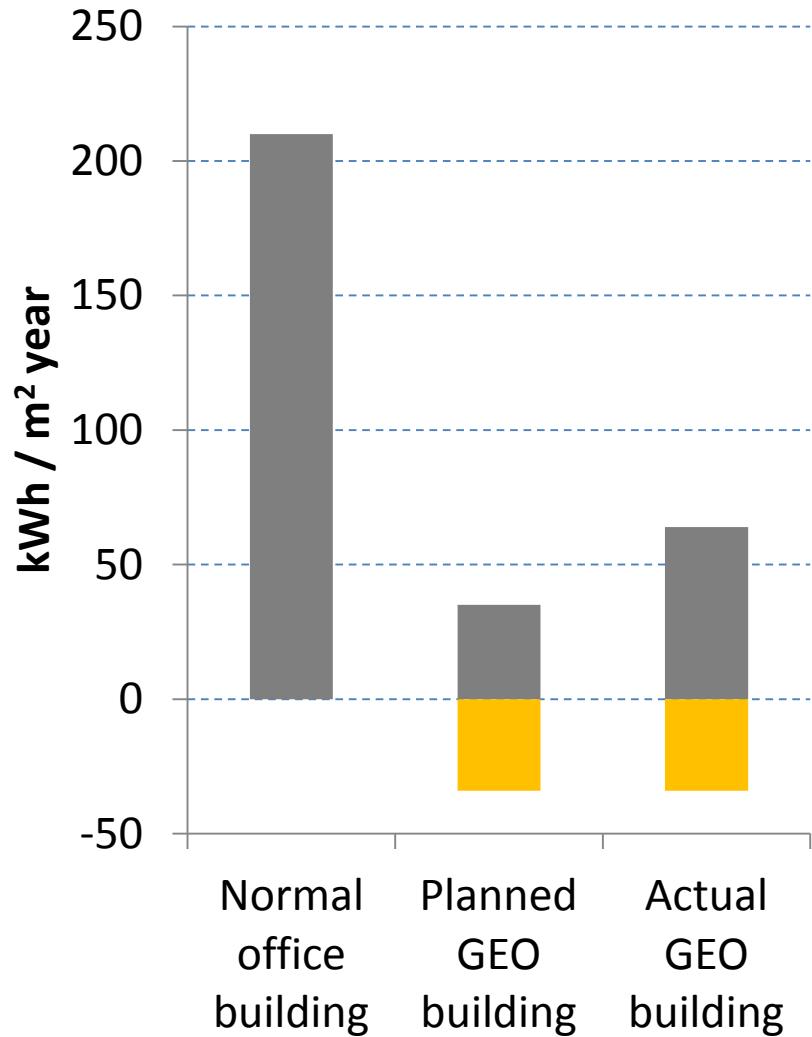
### Concept no. 1

Zero Energy Building

### Concept no. 2

Shift load to the night,  
hence, reducing peak  
demand for power utilities

# Concept no. 1: Zero Energy Building



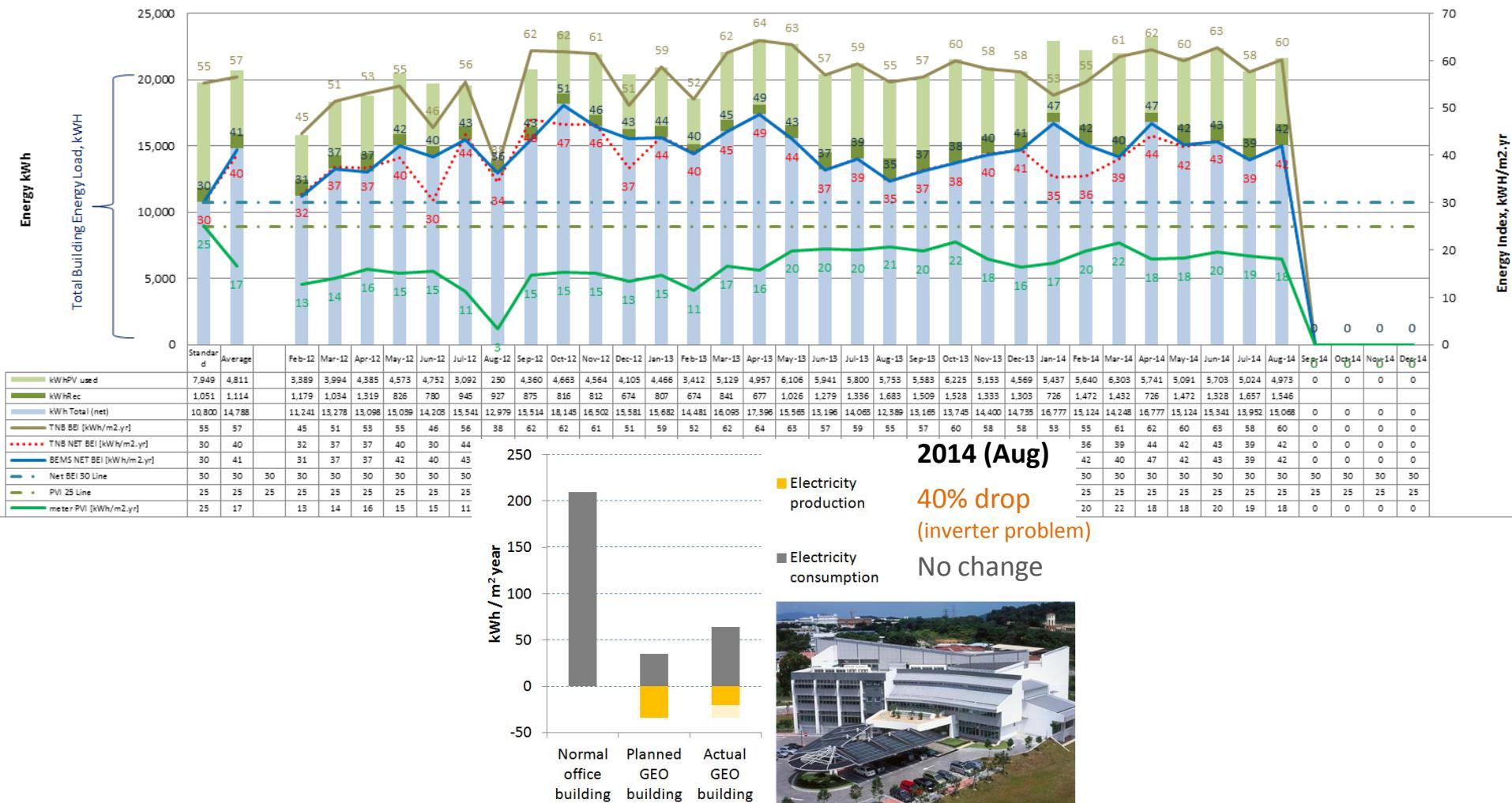
Electricity production

Electricity consumption



# GEO building: Latest energy measurements

Graph 1 : GEO Building Energy Usage & Generation Performance , 2012-2014(Aug)



# Concept no. 2: Shift load to the night



## Building integrated photovoltaic (91 kW<sub>p</sub>)

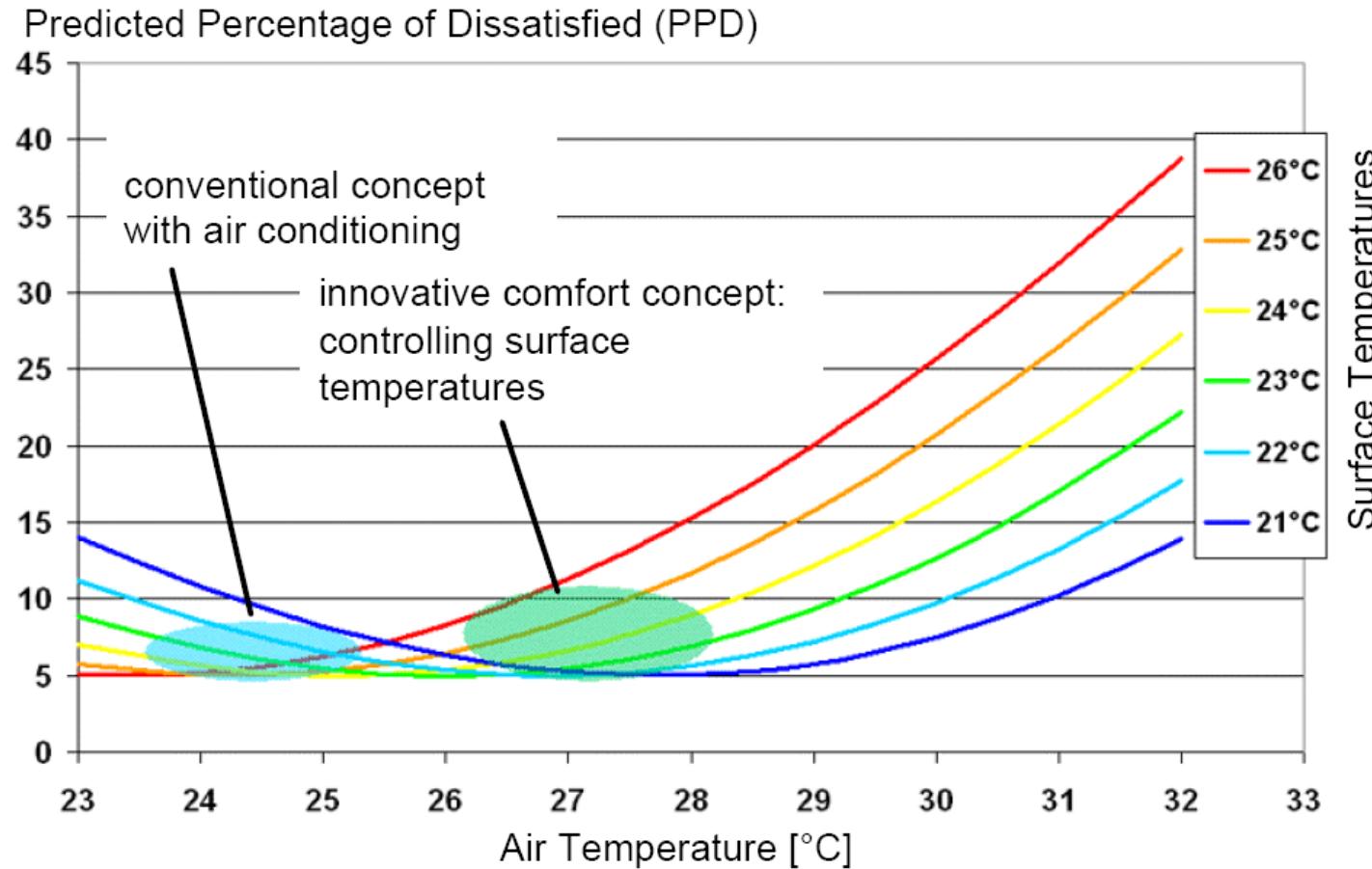


## Floor slab cooling (18°C) and Phase Change Material tank (10°C)

TABS (19°C)



# Radiant Cooling allows Higher Air Temperature

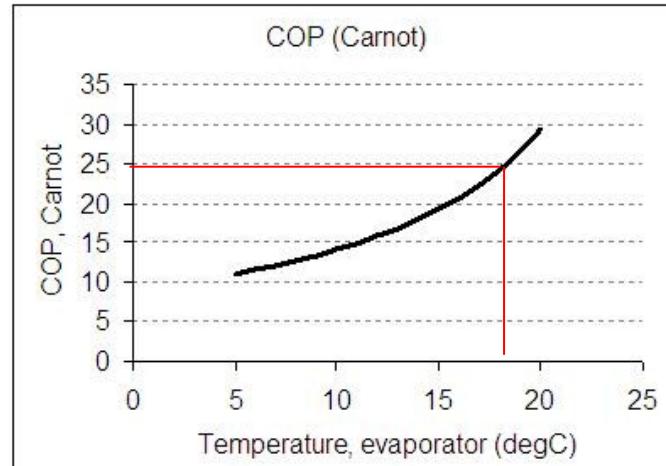


Predicted percentage of dissatisfied (PPD) according to Prof. O. Fanger  
different surface temperatures; no direct radiation  
office work, light clothing air velocity 0.15 m/s; humidity 11 g/kg

# Efficient High Temperature Cooling

- 2 Chillers:
  - a) High Temperature cooling (18°C) for Floor Slab Cooling system (**very high COP possible**)
  - b) Conventional chiller (7°C) for fresh supply
- Chiller Operation Primarily at Night (lower temperature at condensing side → **higher COP**)
- Chillers only supply cooling to thermal storages, hence, **maximum COP** for chiller operation can be ensured at all times. NB. Maximum COP is at part load (~75% load)

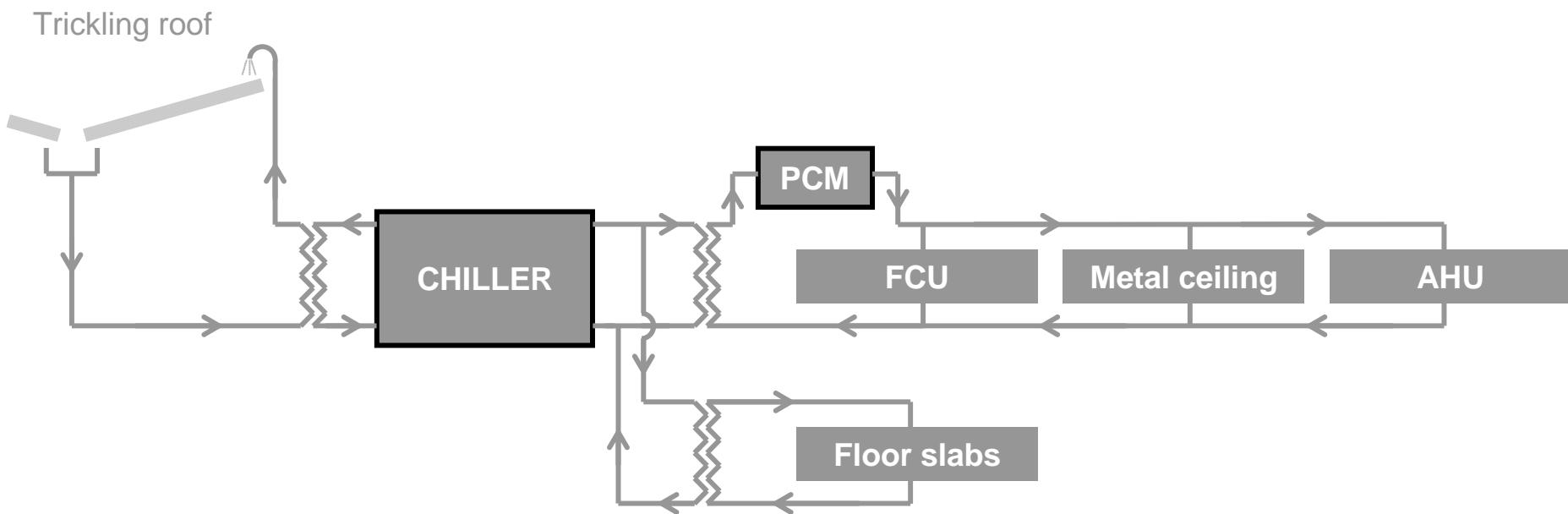
$$\text{COP}_{\text{refrigerator}} = \frac{T_c}{T_H - T_c}$$



*The COP increases with increasing temperature of the evaporator, for example for high temperature cooling at 18°C instead of at the conventional 7°C. Here, the theoretical maximum COP (Carnot) is shown for a constant condenser temperature of 30°C*

# Schematic Design of Cooling System

GEO building



PCM:

Phase Change Material (thermal storage tank with “10°C ice”)

FCU:

Fan Coil Units

Metal ceiling:

Radiant cooling metal ceiling

AHU:

Air handling unit

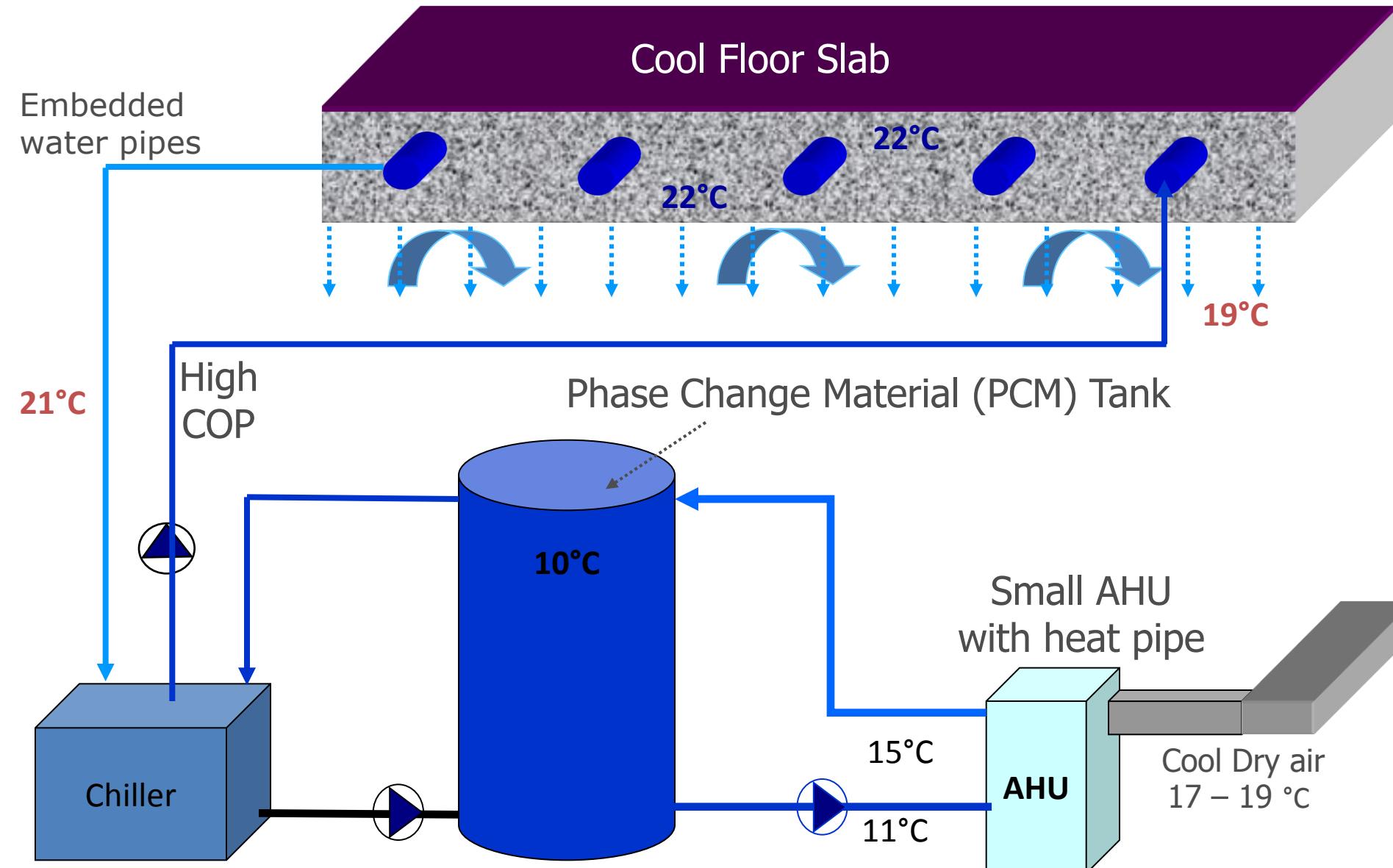
Floor slabs:

Concrete floor and ceiling slab cooling (TABS, thermally activate building structure)

Trickling roof:

7° tilt flat roof flooded with condenser water at night to eject heat (replaces cooling tower)

# Cooling Storage in Floor Slabs and PCM Tank



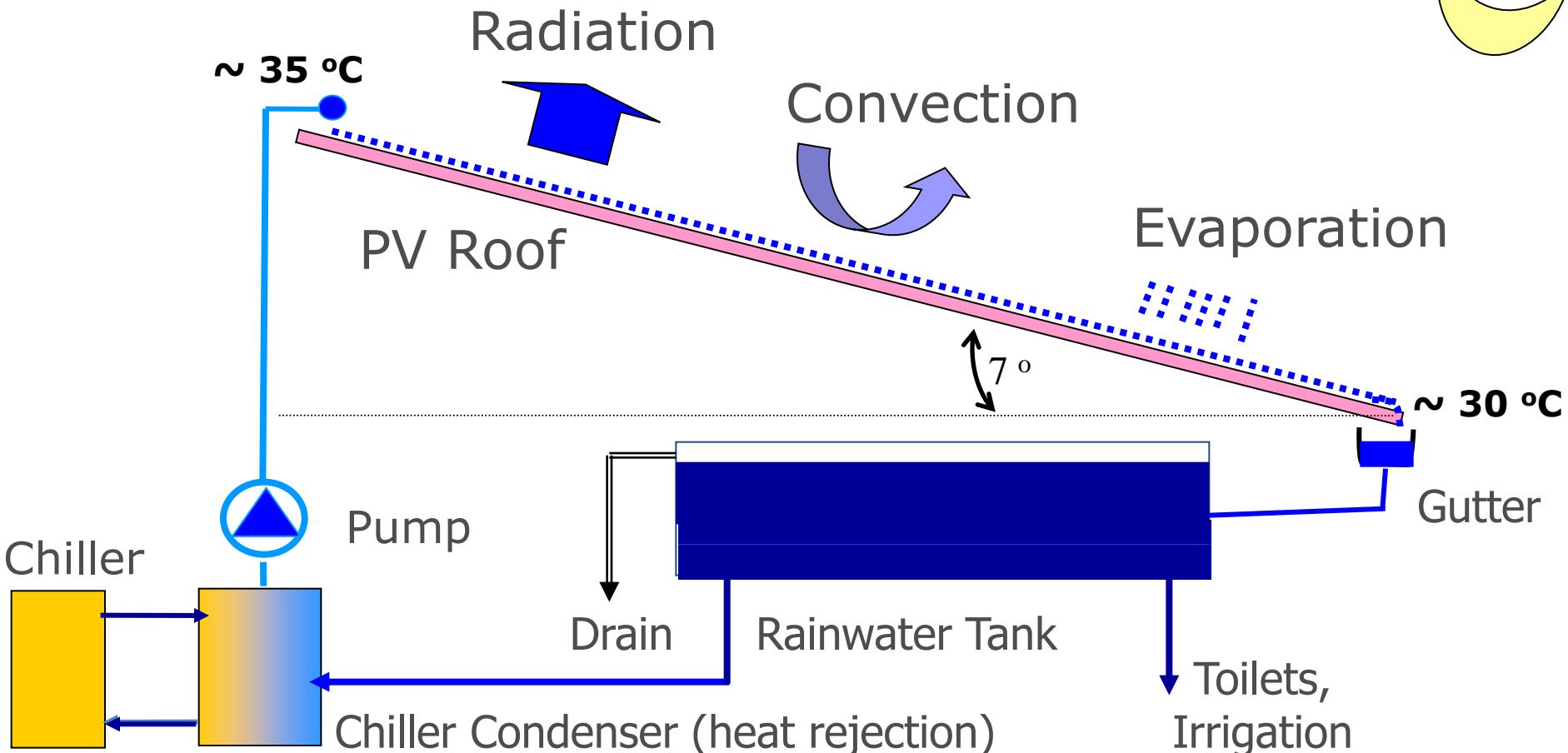
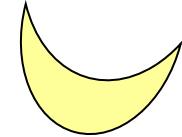
# Rainwater Collection and River Roof

(alternate cooling tower)

~ 25 °C

~ 95% RH

Sky Radiant Temperature  
10 – 20 °C at night



# The River Roof of GEO Building

to be operated at night only

## Video 1:

Gutter for 'cooling tower' water & rainwater



River roof GEO building, Malaysia



Video link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8gC4dIB330>

## Video 2:

Manifold splashing water onto PV roof



Manifold for river roof at GEO building, Malaysia

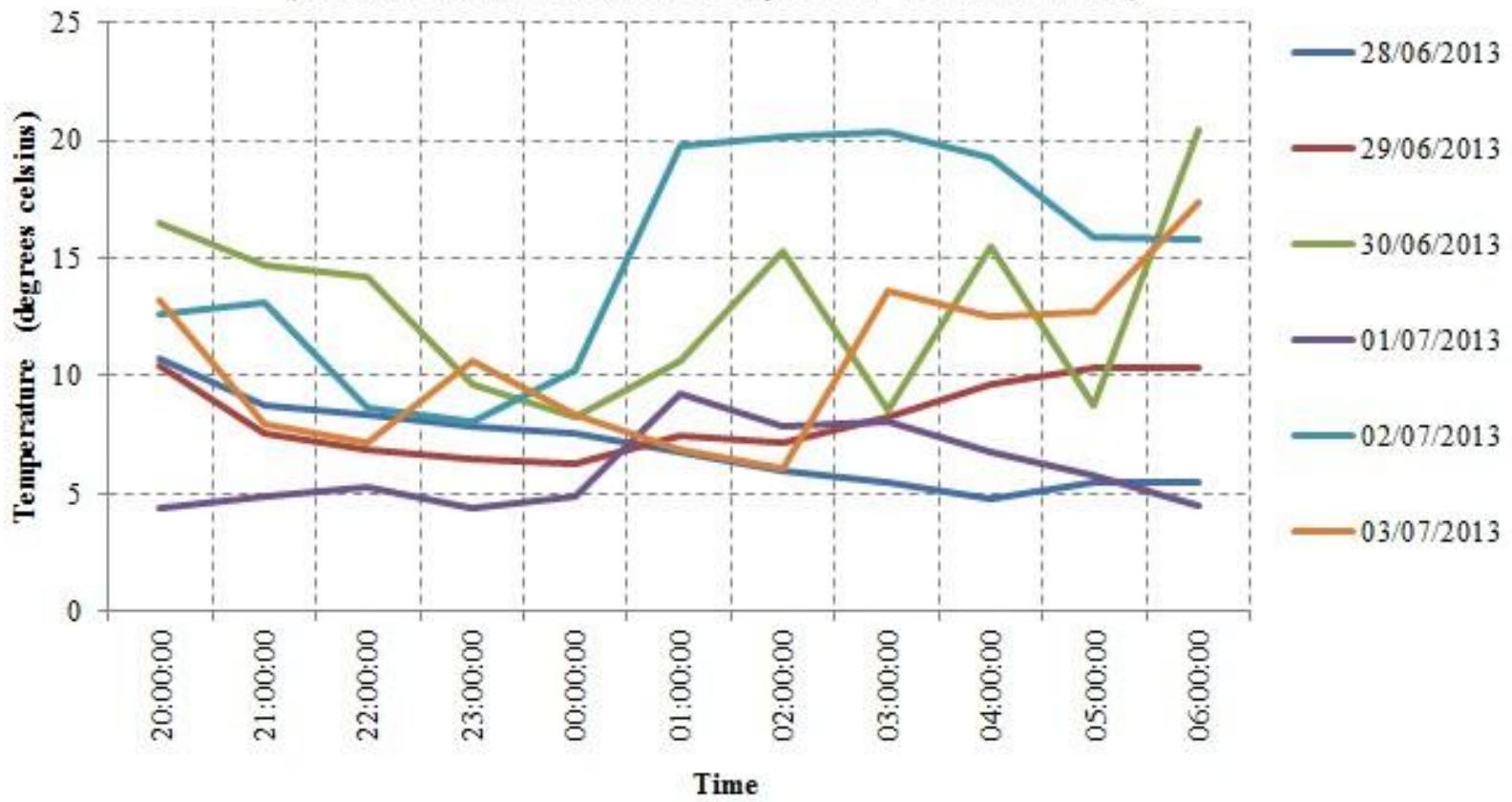


Video link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nb\\_JntSXoiA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nb_JntSXoiA)

# River roof cooling primarily through sky radiation

## Night sky temperature measurements in Malaysia (zenith measurements, by IEN Consultants)



# Phase Change Material Tank

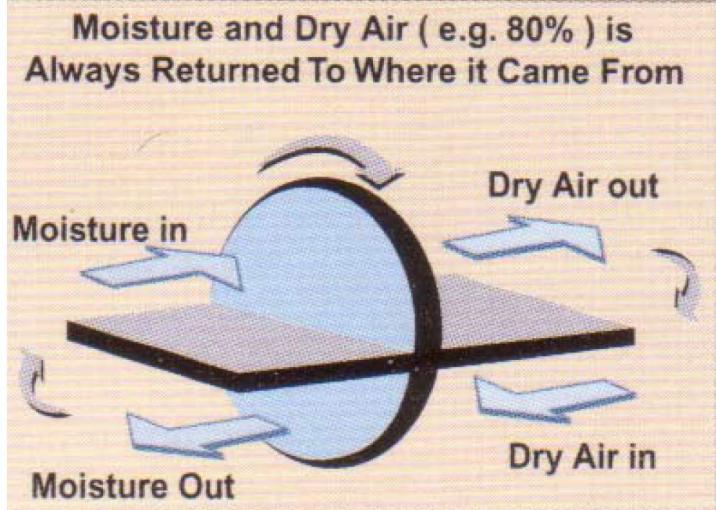
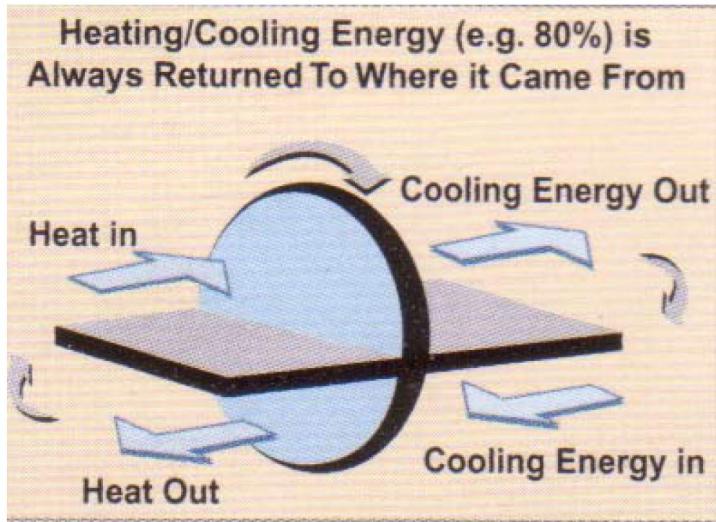
- Melting point: 10°C
- Total storage capacity: 580 kWh
- Charged with 7°C water (night time)
- Used for dehumidification of air:  $19 \rightarrow 8 \text{ g/kg}$



Dimensions:  $\sim 3 \times 3 \times 2.5 \text{ meters}$

# Energy Recovery Wheel

## Latent and sensible recovery



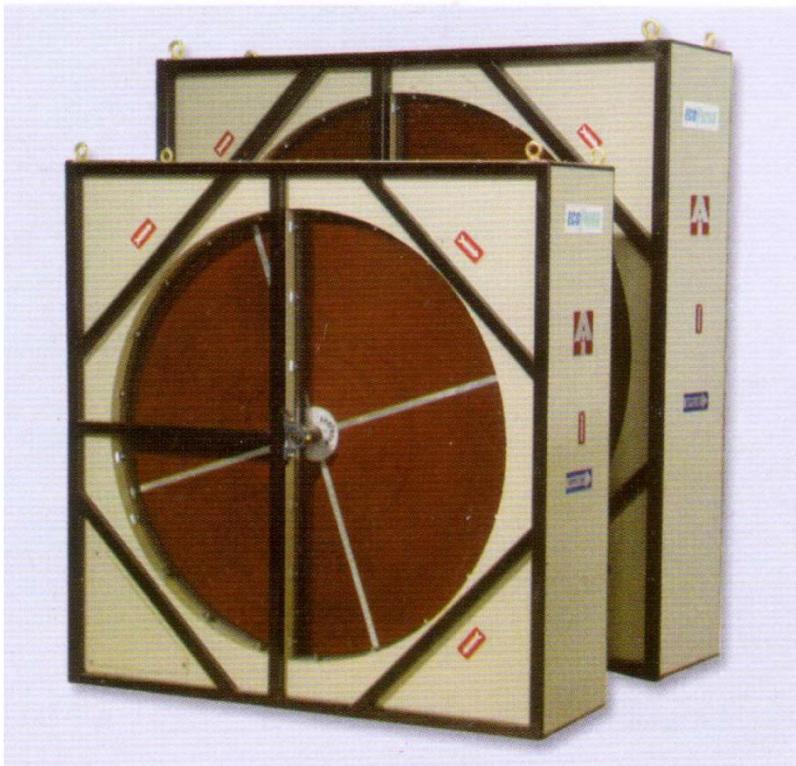
Working principle of energy recovery wheels



Photographed at building during construction

# Energy Recovery Wheel

## Latent and sensible recovery



EcoFresh Heat Wheels  
Bry-Air, My

Energy recovery ventilators:

- desiccant coated heat wheels (molecular sieve coated)
- heat and humidity recovery
- typical efficiency: 50 .. (60 %) .. 79 %

### Example for the GEO Building:

Cooling Capacity	Latent heat recovery
249.2 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> a	65.6 kWh/m <sup>2</sup> a
184.4 kW	68.2 kW

savings:

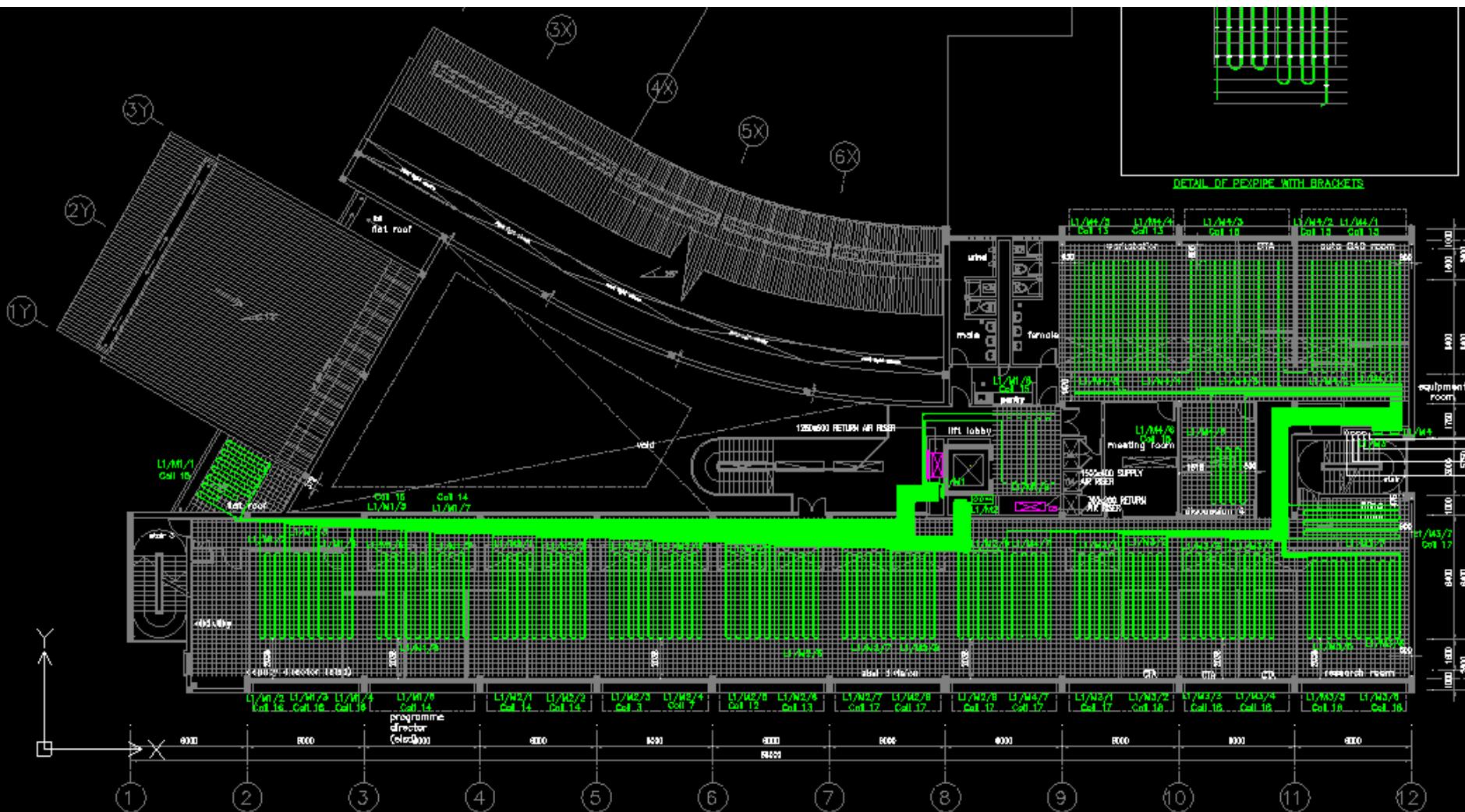
- about 26 % of cooling energy
- about 36 % of cooling capacity

# GEO building: Floor Slab Cooling

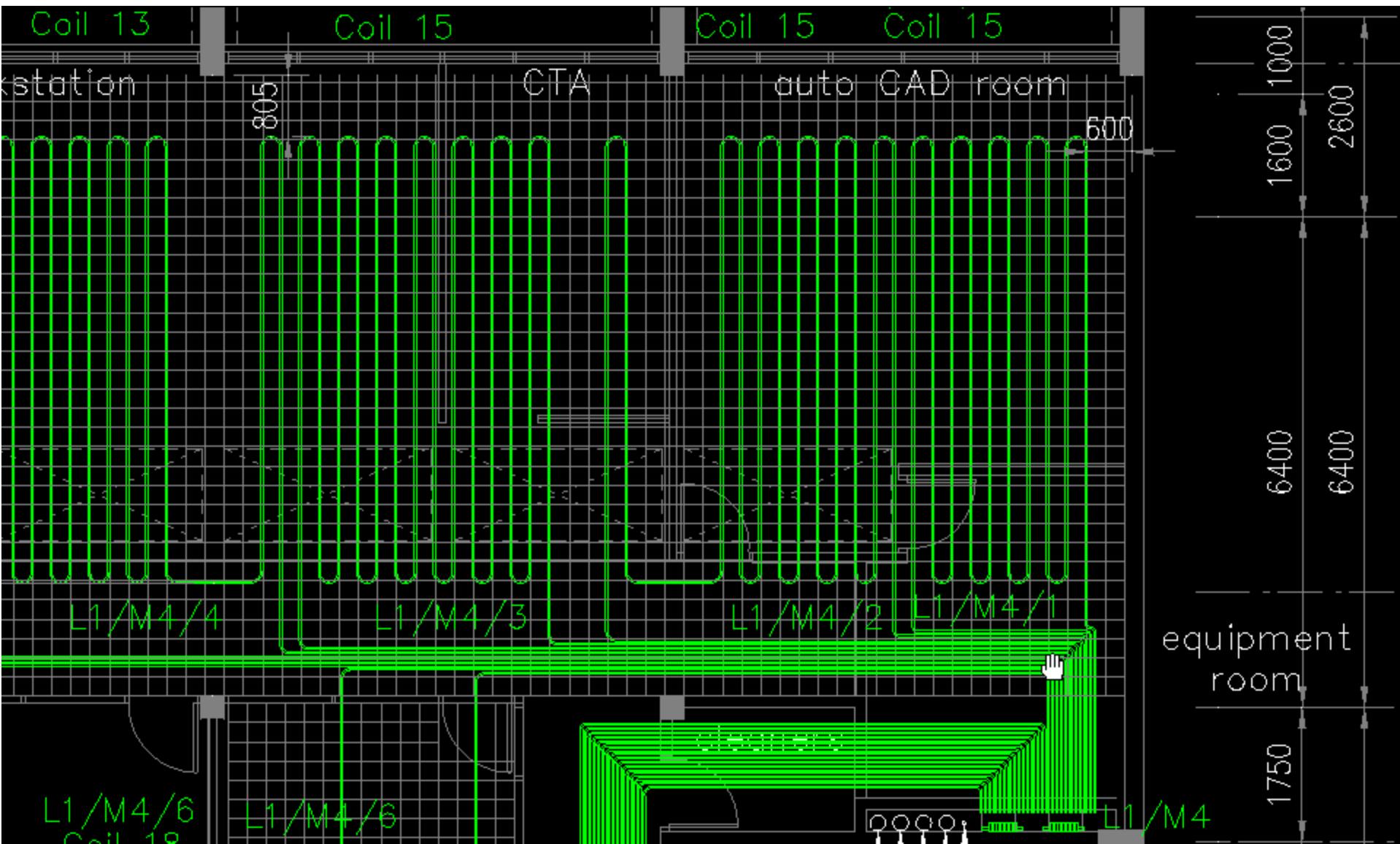
- PEX pipes
- Embedded in concrete slab
- Supply temperature: 18-20°C
- Return temperature: 22-24°C
- Night time operation only



# GEO building: Floor Slab Cooling



# GEO building: Floor Slab Cooling



# Energy Model for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

## GEO Building

### Computer modeling of GEO Building

by Transsolar using TRNSYS

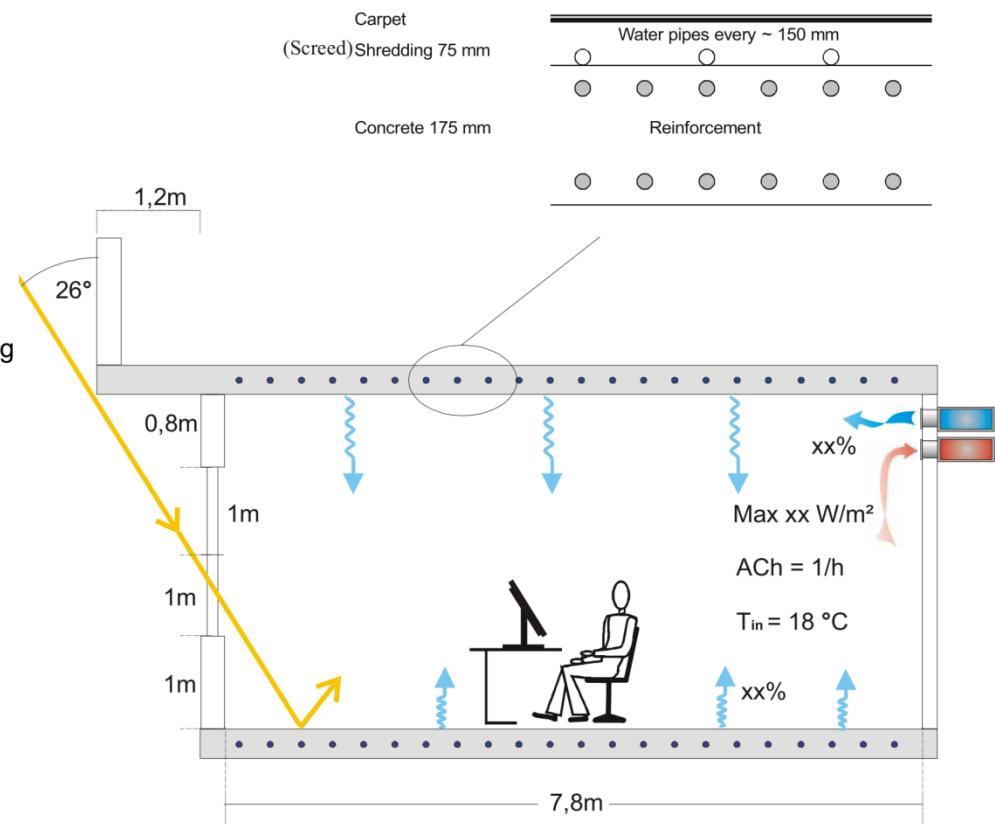
#### boundary conditions

floor area and volume  $95 \text{ m}^2 / 356 \text{ m}^3$

length facade:  $12.2 \text{ m}$   
depth:  $7.8 \text{ m}$   
height:  $3.75 \text{ m}$  without suspended ceiling

facade:  
50 % opaque  
50 % glazings with frames  
20 cm lightweight concrete  
sun protection glazings  
50 % light transmission  
25 % SHGC  
Ug-value =  $1.1 \text{ W/m}^2/\text{K}$

shading overhang  $1.2 \text{ m}$   
Orientation South  
humidity capacity of surface  $5 \times \text{air humidity capacity}$



# Energy Model for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

## GEO Building

### Computer modeling of GEO Building

by Transsolar using TRNSYS

#### Occupation

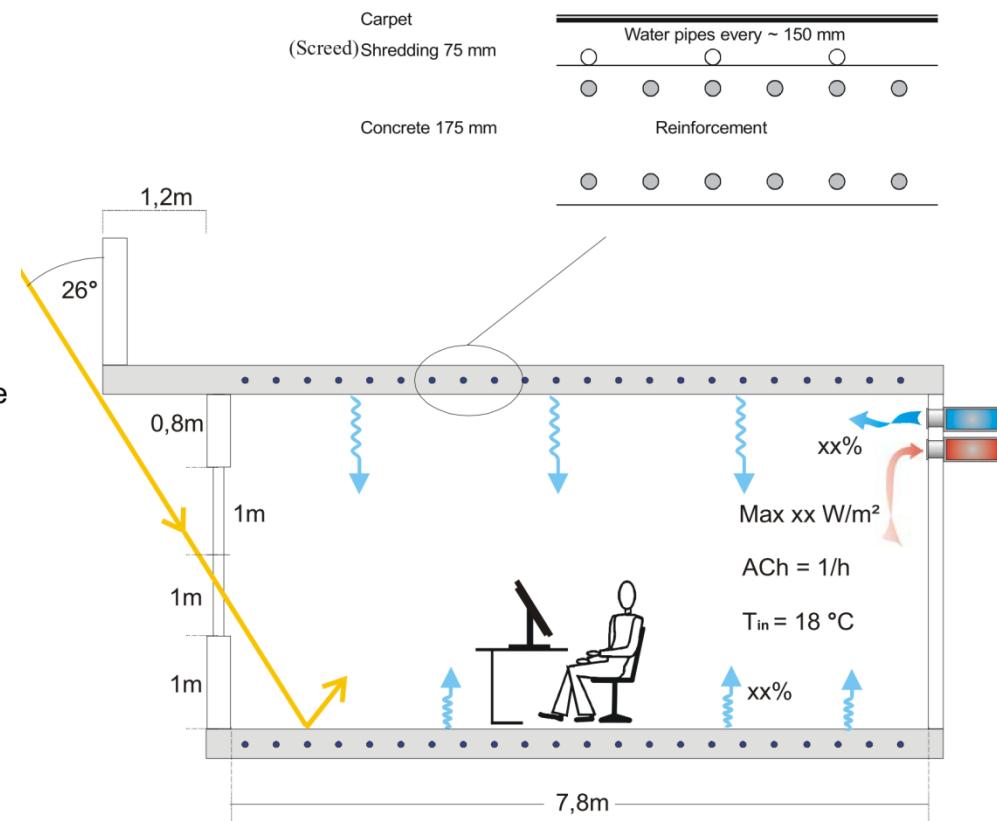
Persons 10 with 75 W sensible heat gain from 8 am to 5 pm  
PC 10 with 31 W,  
variant: 10 with 100 W

#### Mechanical ventilation

Airchange 1/h starts 2 h before operation time and stops 1 h after operation time  
Inlet air temperature 18 °C  
Inlet air absolute humidity 8.5 g/kg  
recycling air at night 0.1 1/h to keep 75 % relative air humidity

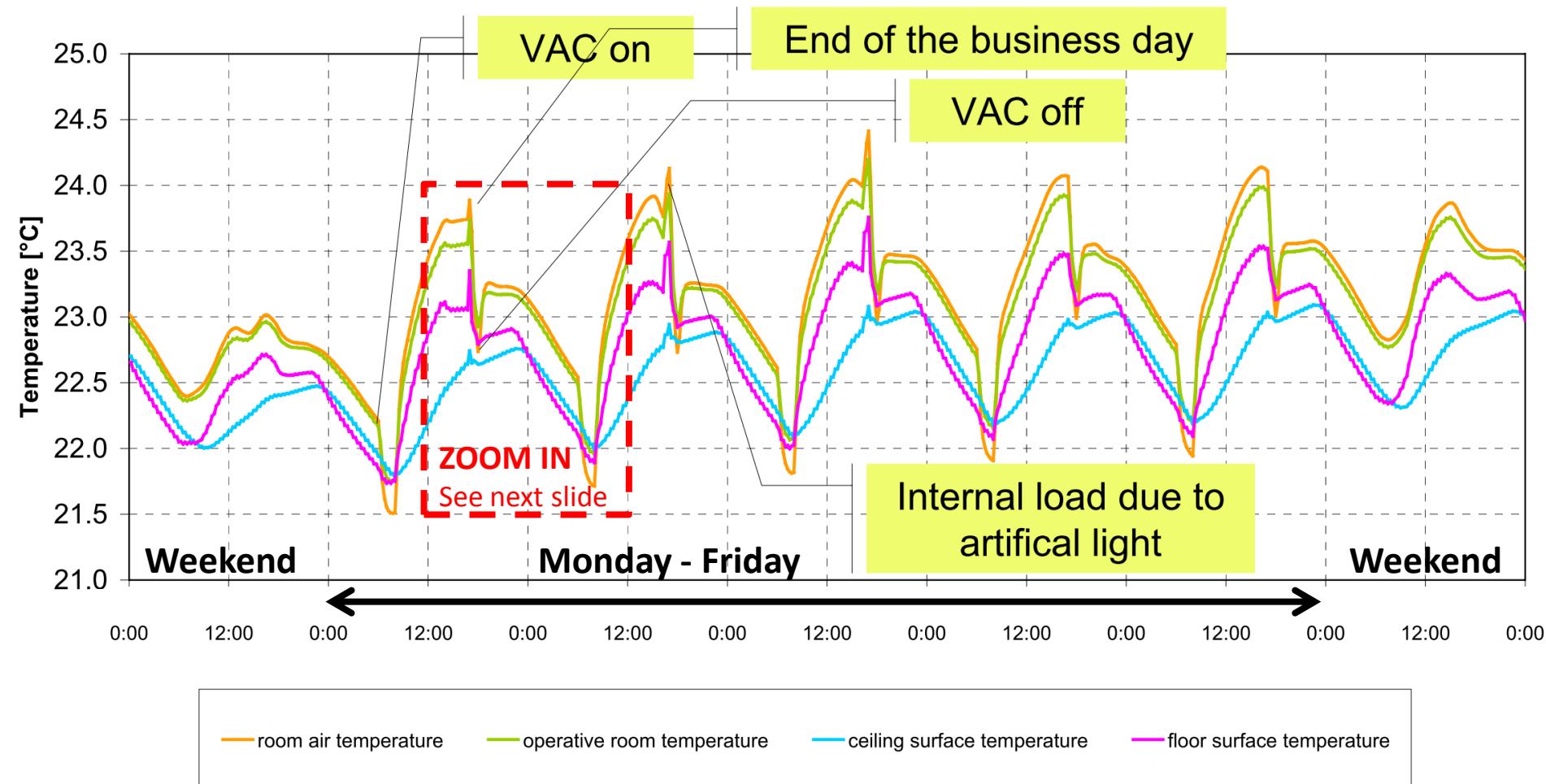
#### Slab cooling

Operation time 10 pm to 8 am  
Inlet fluid temperature 20 °C  
Mass flow 12 kg/m<sup>2</sup>/h  
Pipe dimension 20x2 mm, distance: 15 cm  
active area 80 %



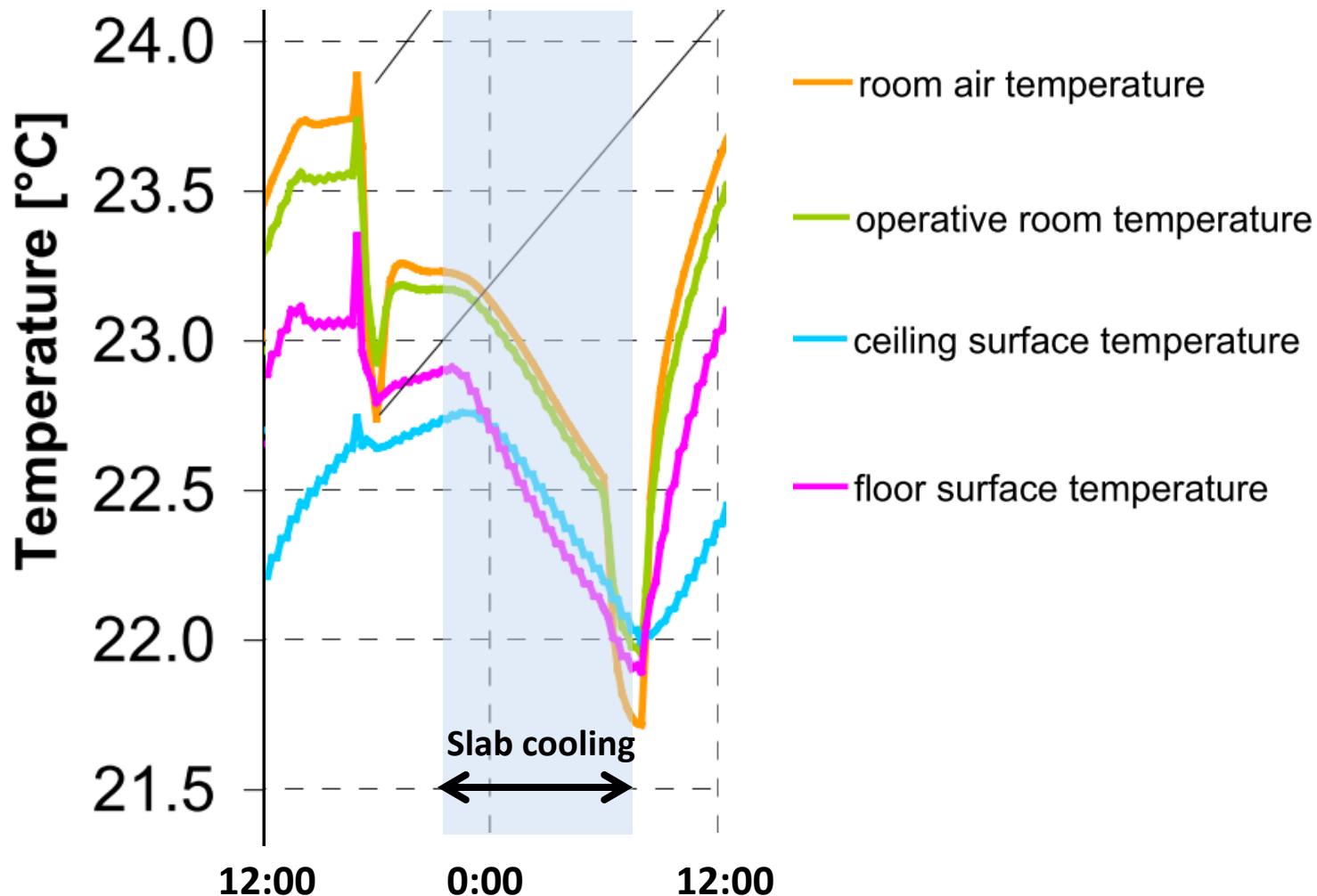
# Energy Model for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



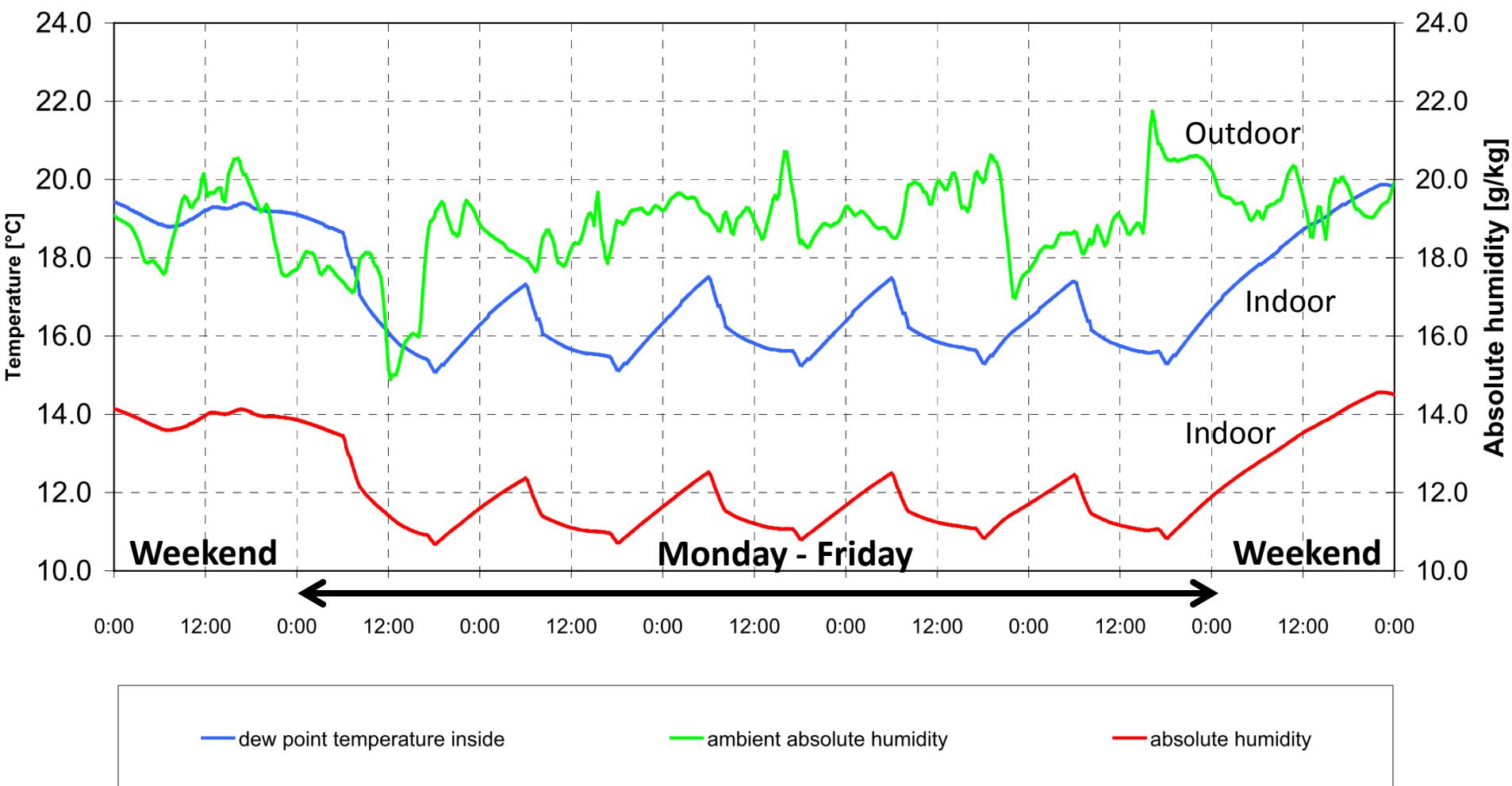
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Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



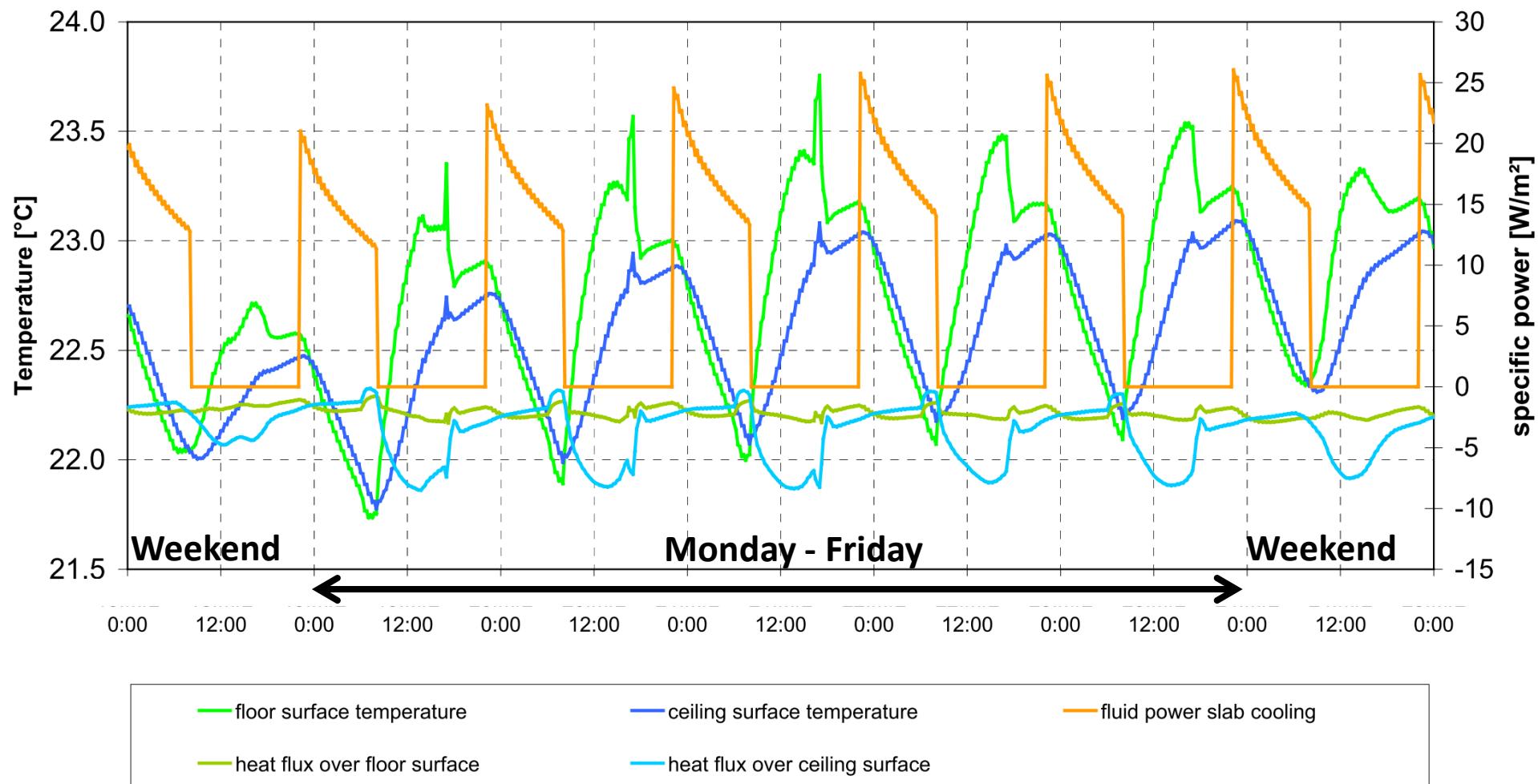
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Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



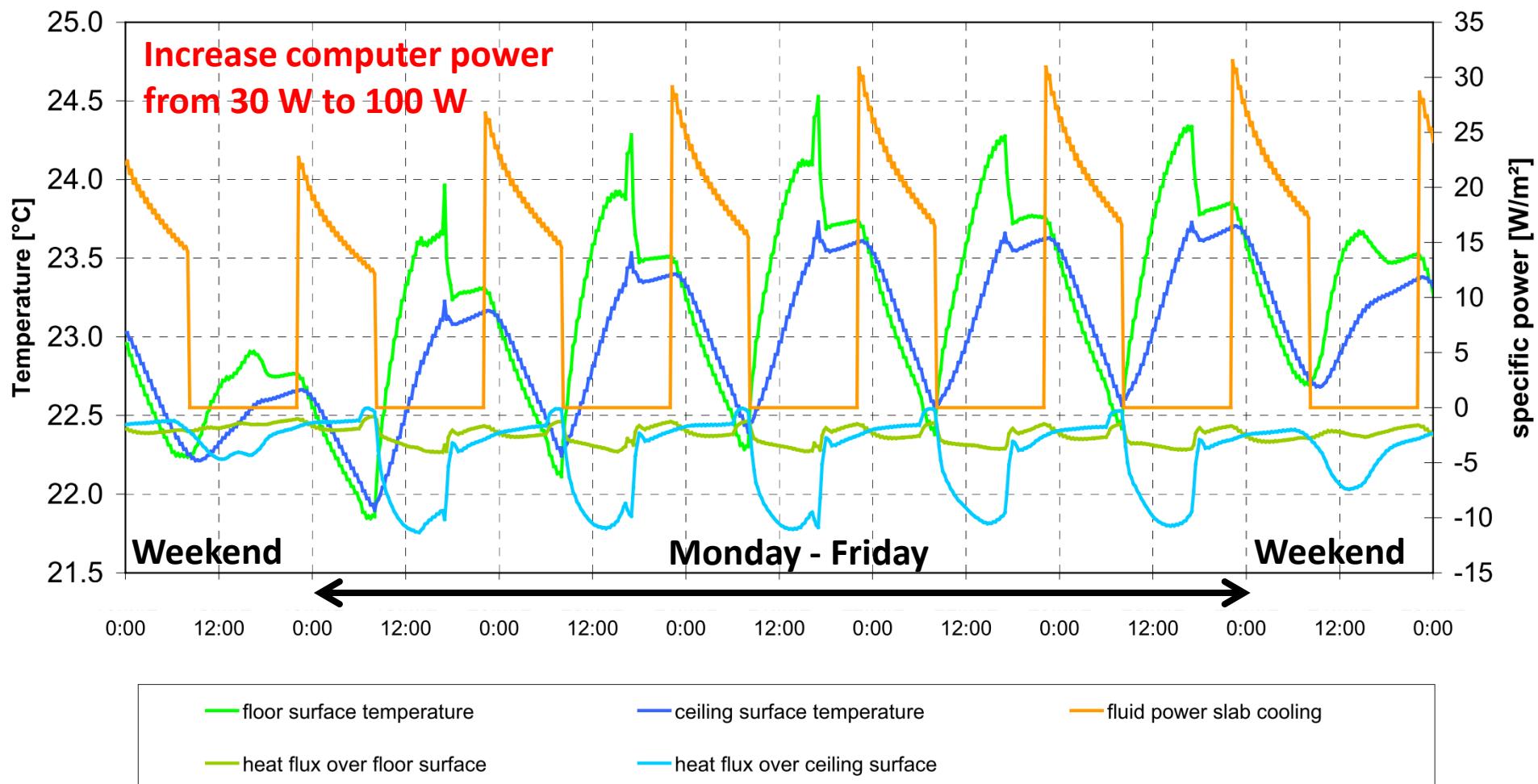
# Energy Model for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



# Energy Model for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

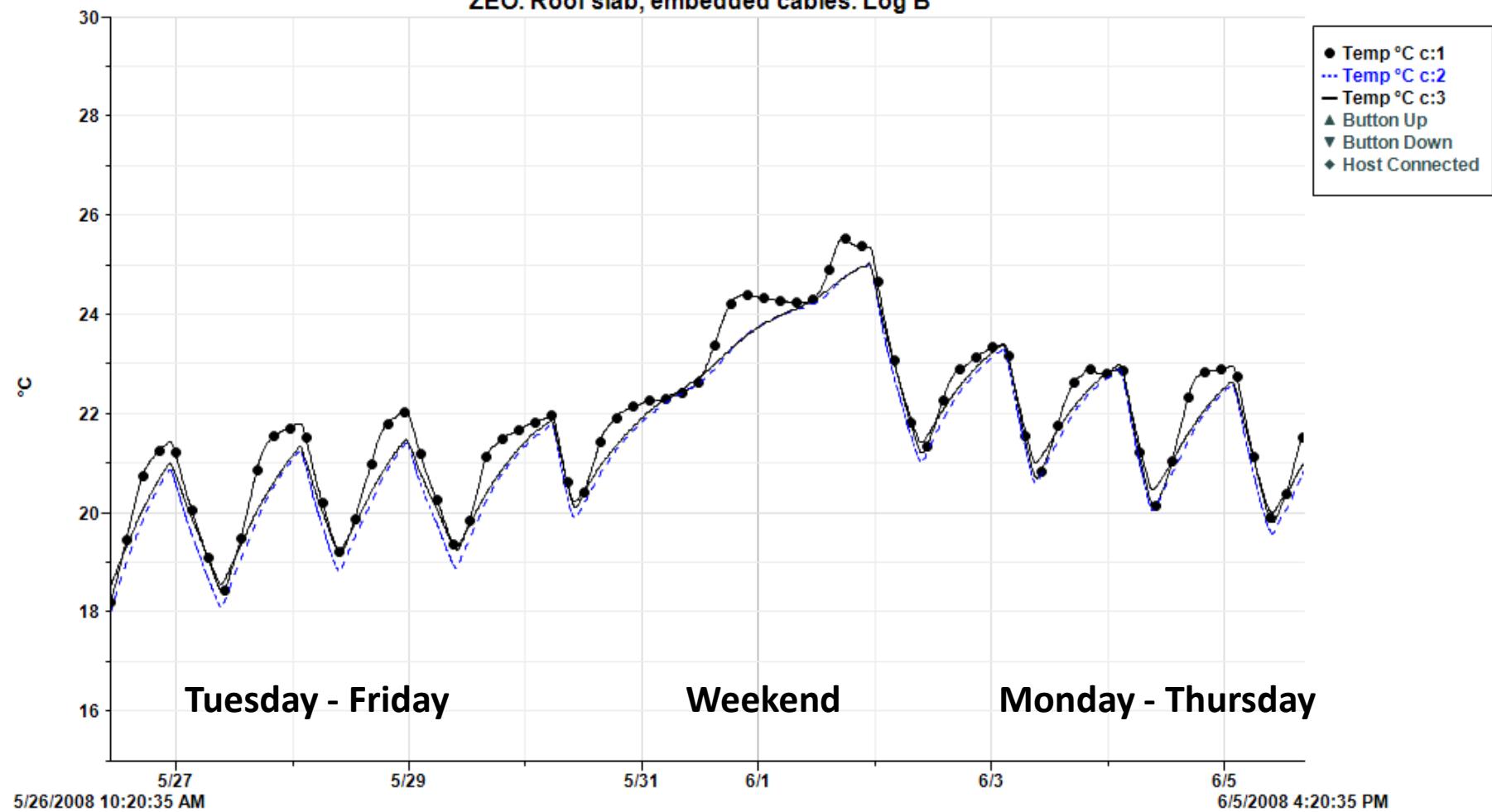
Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



# Measured Concrete Slab Core Temperature

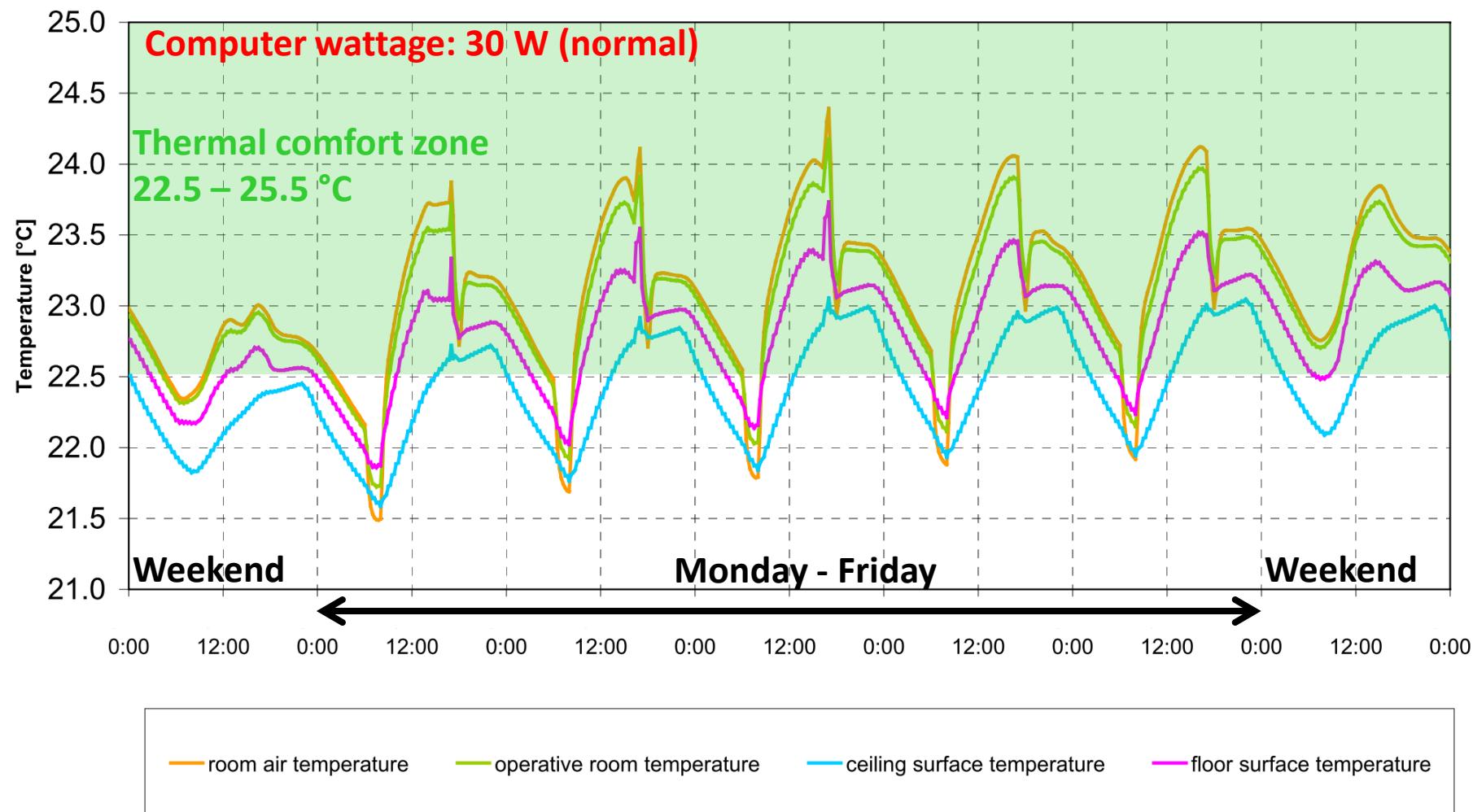
## Roof slab of GEO Building

ZEO. Roof slab, embedded cables. Log B



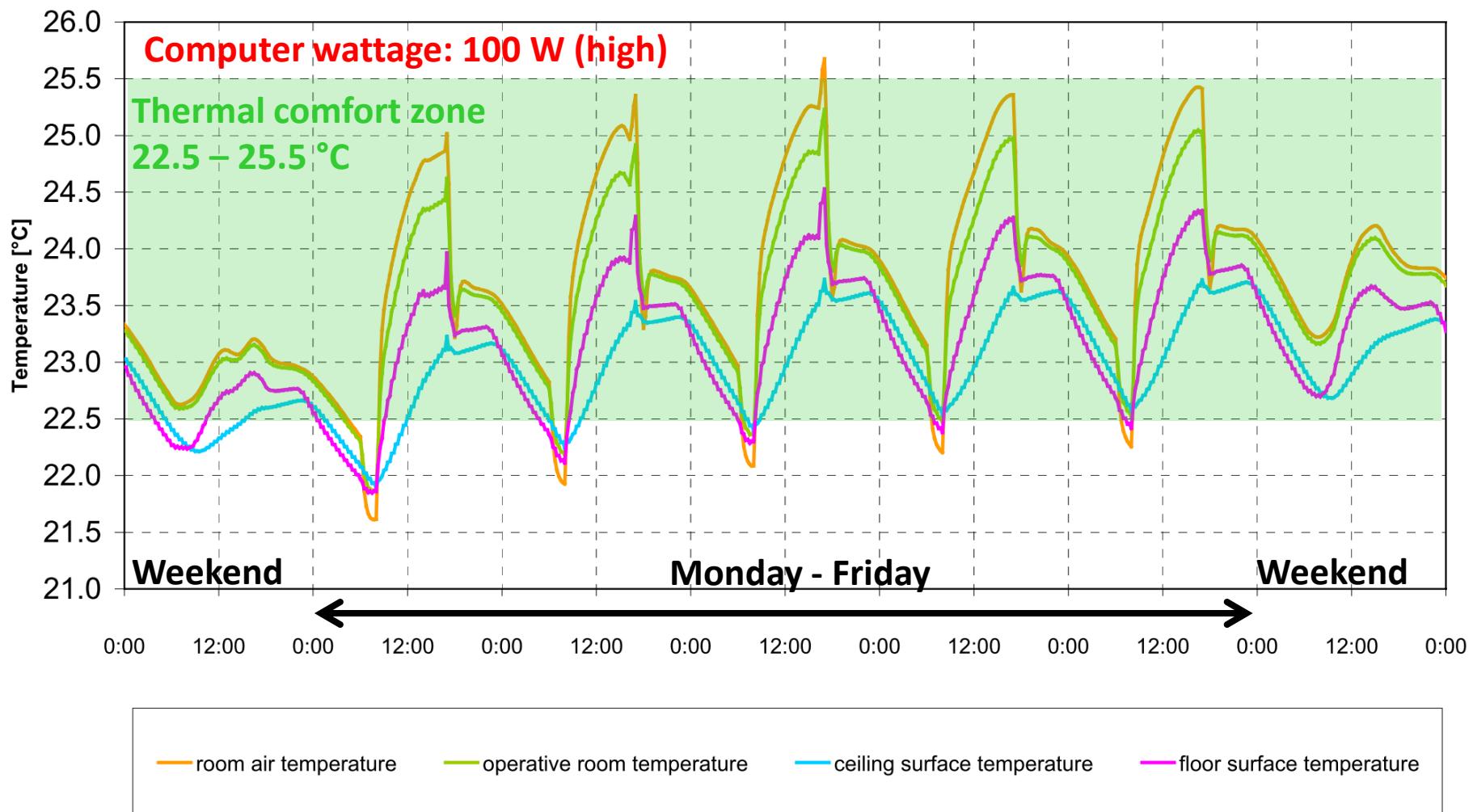
# Thermal Comfort for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



# Thermal Comfort for Concrete Floor Slab Cooling

Slab cooling 10 pm – 8 am



# Measured Temperature for Open Plan Office

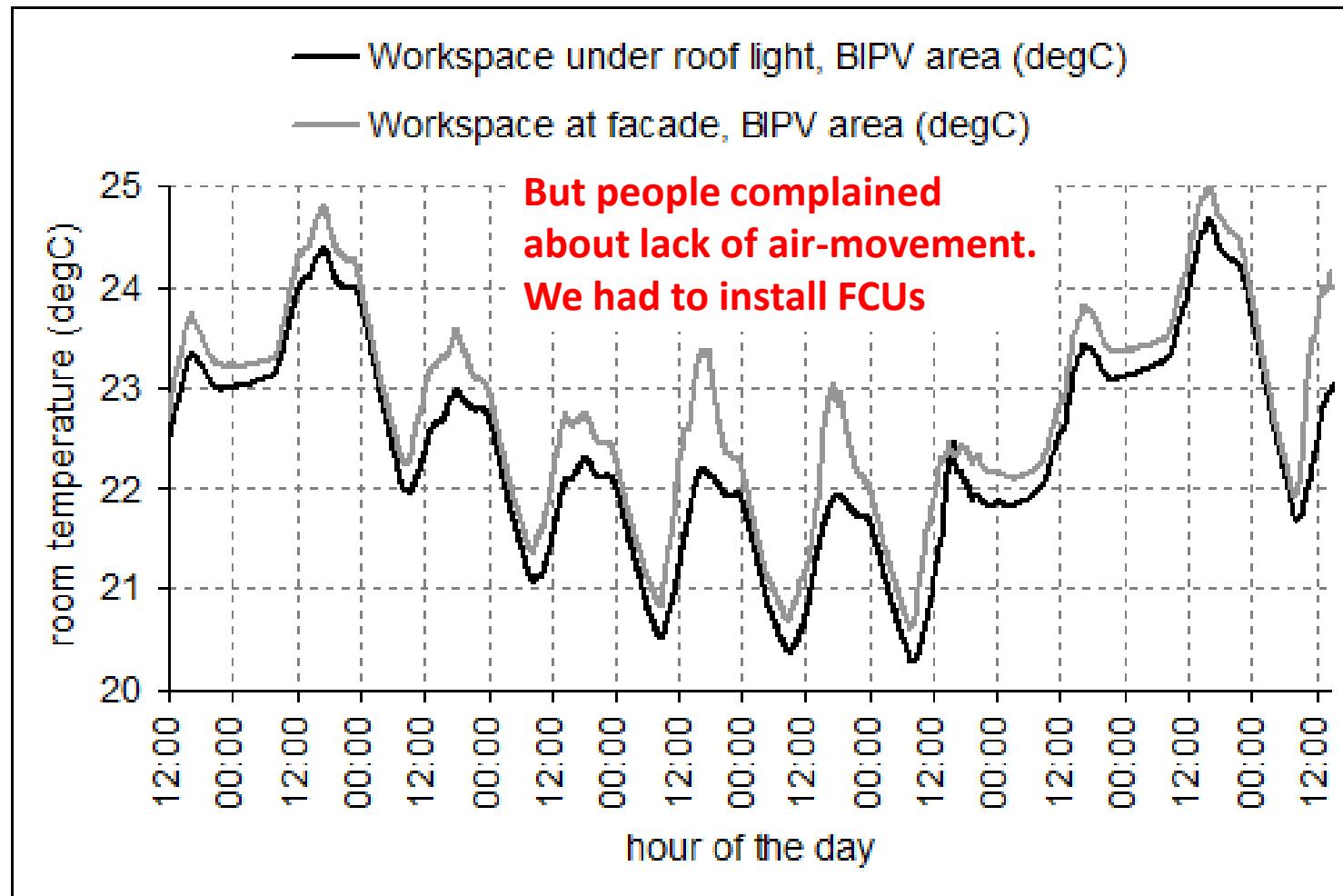


Figure 13: Temperature measured in each workstation from 1 – 10 March 2008

# Measured Dew Point Temperature for Open Plan Office

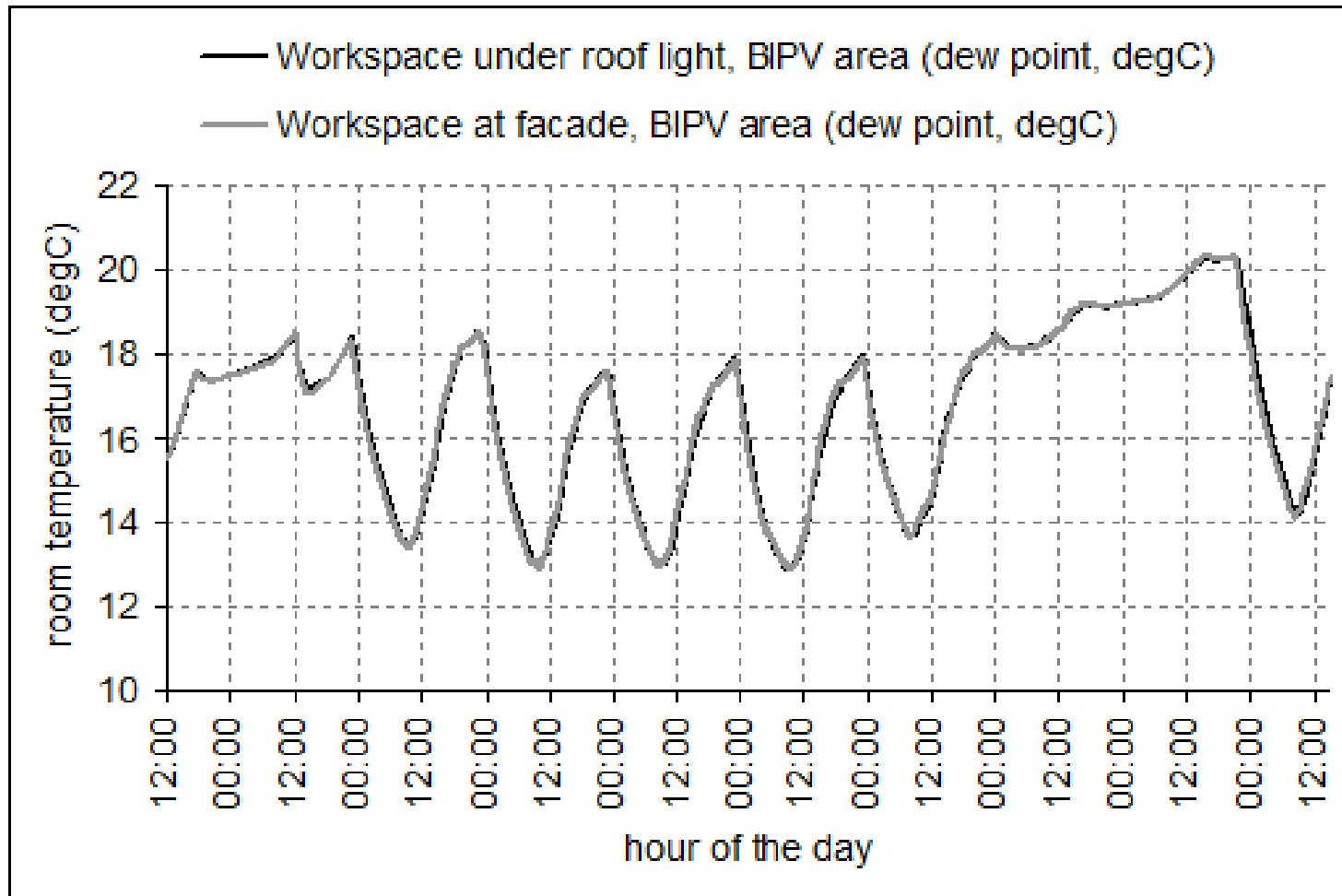


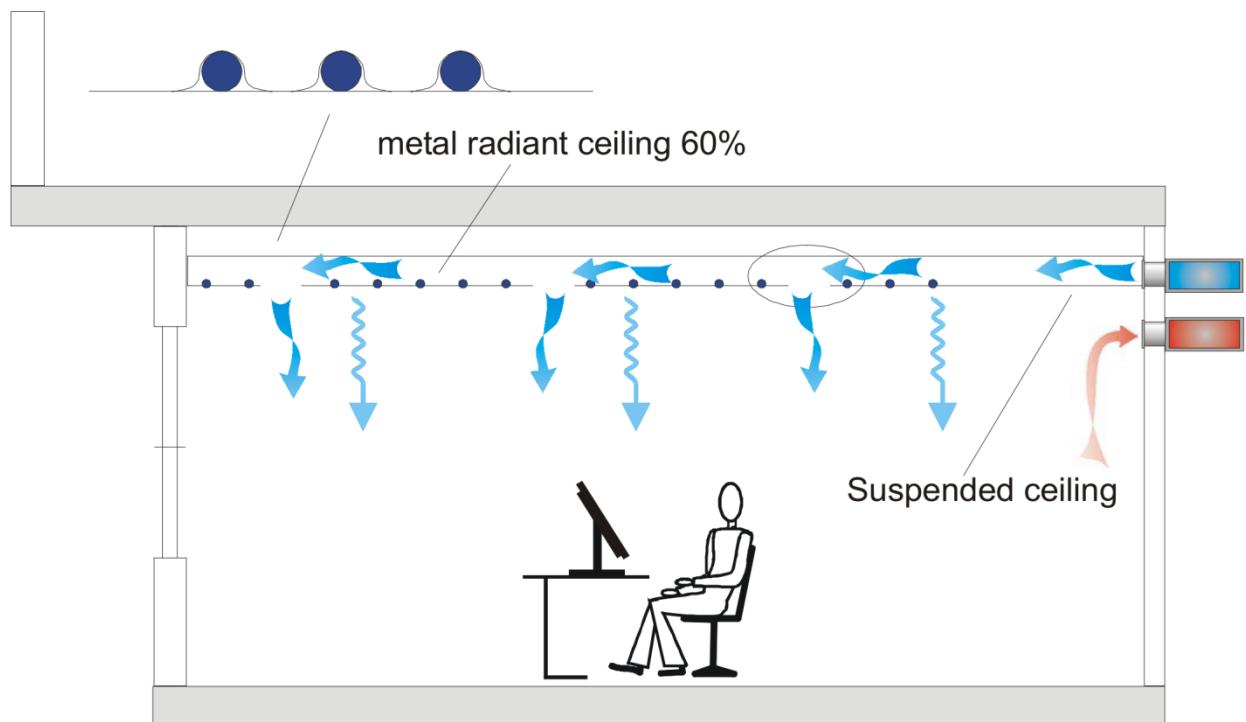
Figure 14: Dew point measured in each work station from 1 – 10 March 2008

# Energy Model for Metal Ceiling Cooling

## GEO Building

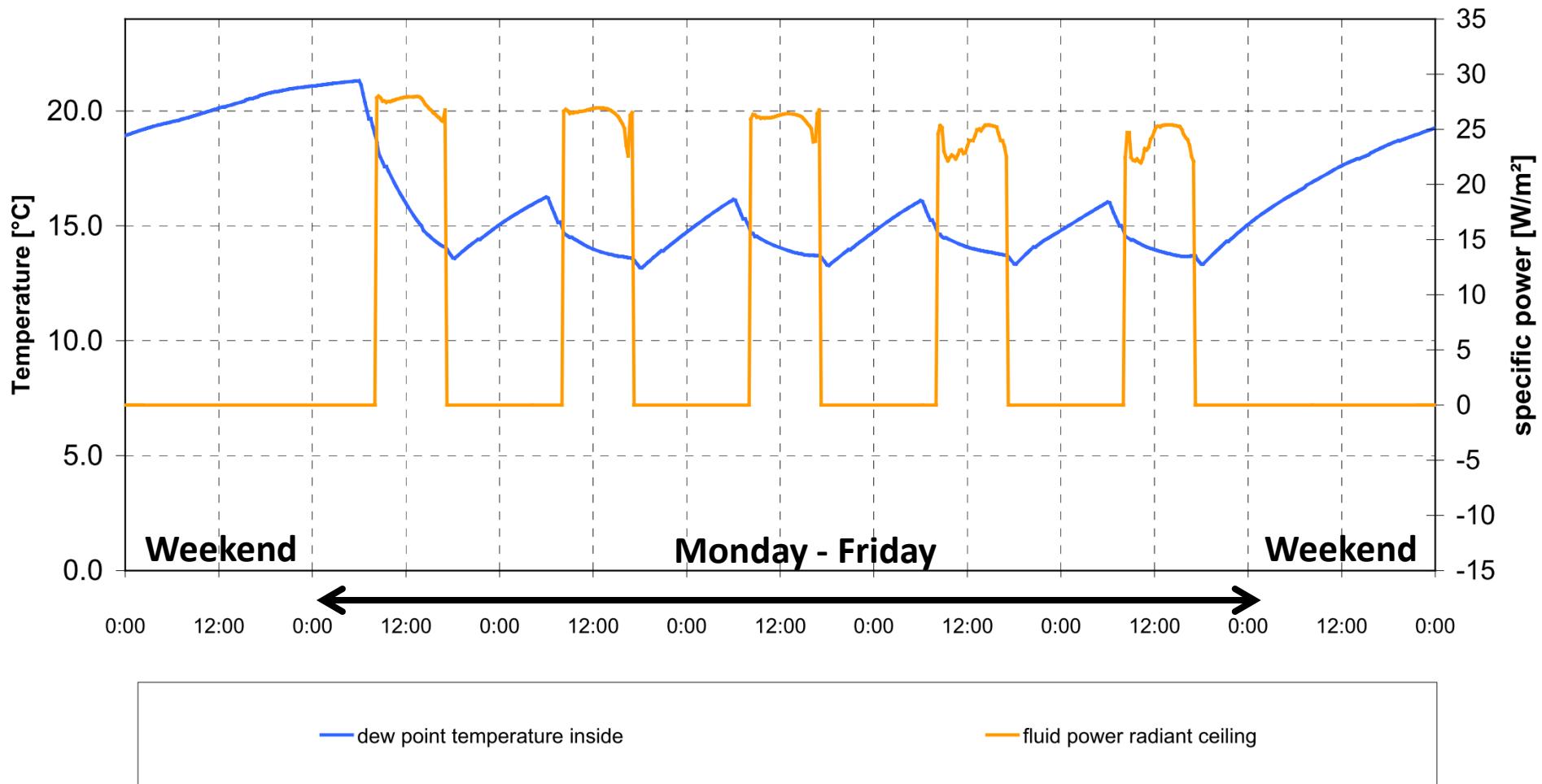
### Computer modeling of GEO Building

by Transsolar using TRNSYS



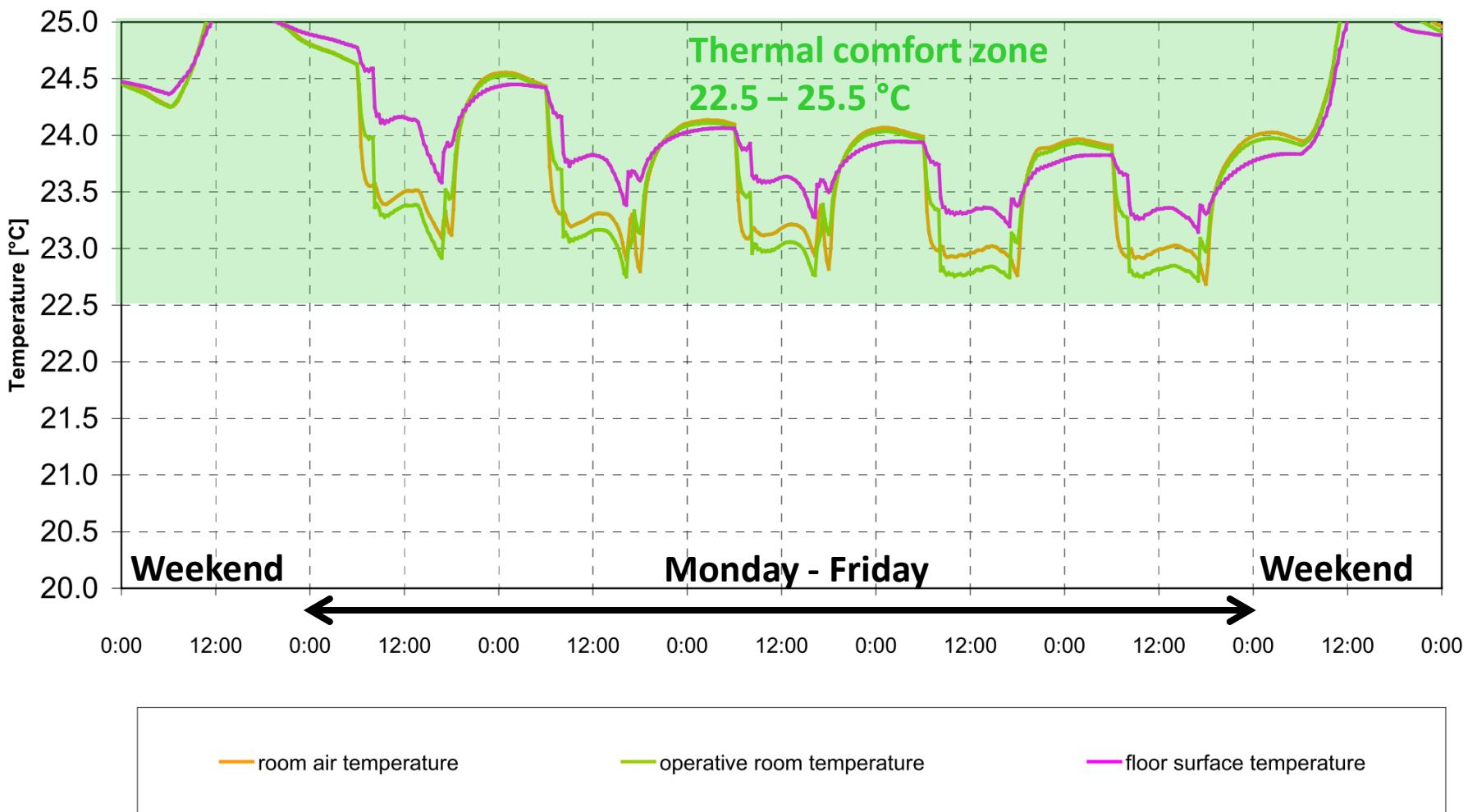
# Energy Model for Metal Ceiling Cooling

Day time operation



# Thermal Comfort for Metal Ceiling Cooling

Day time operation

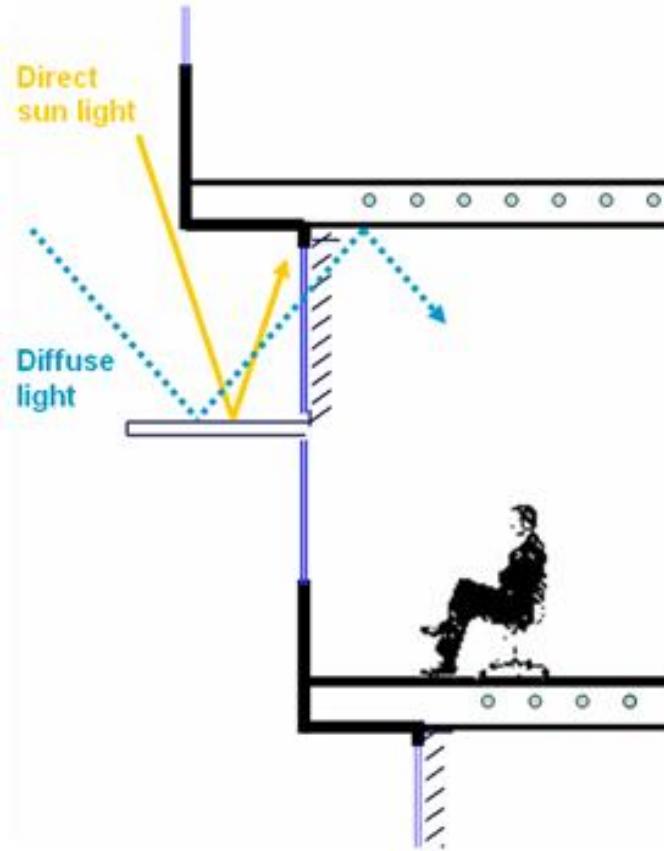


# Simulated & Measured Energy for GEO Building

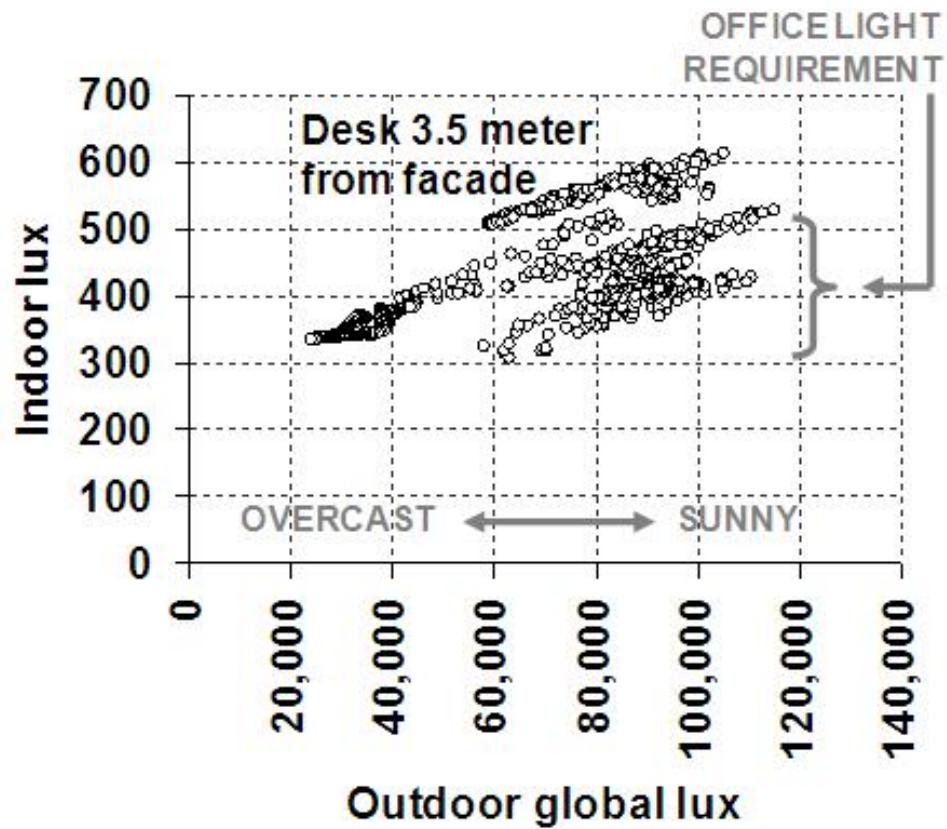
## Good correlation

Annual (MWh/yr)	Simulated (MWh/yr)	Measured (MWh/yr)	Data Logging Period	Remarks
<b>Total Building Load</b>		<b>268.93</b>	<b>2 weeks</b>	
Total Chiller Load	293.1	219.98	2 weeks	
COSP	6.2			
<b>Lighting + Plug Load + Fans</b>	66.1	70.35		Estimated
Plug Load + Fans	42 + 10	54.00	2 weeks	Plug Load obtained from DPM Logged Data minus the Lighting data
Lighting	13	16.35	2 weeks	Lighting Data for G, 1, 2 and 3 Fl
Lift		2.2	3 months	48% of energy goes to standby consumption
<b>Chiller System</b>	47.3			Logged Data
Chiller Power		175	2 weeks	
AHU Power		60	2 weeks	
PCM Tank Power		36	2 weeks	
Floor Slab (A+B)		0.1	2 weeks	

# Split Window Design



# Daylight Measurements



- Lighting consumption: 0.56 W/m<sup>2</sup>
- Code requirement: 15 W/m<sup>2</sup>

25 times more efficient

## Transparent PV atrium roof



- PV sandwiched in low-e glass
- 13% transparent area

Daylight factor  
in atrium about  
1 – 1.5%

Nice light  
pattern through  
PV atrium roof



Office case study in Bangi, Malaysia:

## GEO BUILDING

# Winner of 2012 ASEAN Energy Award

(ST Diamond Building, Putrajaya, Malaysia)



# ASHRAE Technology Award 2013 (2<sup>nd</sup> place)

(ST Diamond Building, Putrajaya, Malaysia)



# ST Diamond juxtaposed with Sarawak Longhouse

## (in the book “The Cooperation”, 2012)

Malaysia and Denmark's commitment to the field of

### Green Energy in Architecture

as well as in cooperation and capacity building within the field, can be illustrated by the mutually beneficial involvement of IEN Consultants with the development of this field in Malaysia over the years. IEN Consultants was originally a proprietorship established by a Danish Chief Technical Advisor involved in the identification of energy projects in Malaysia. When the company took on the LEO Building project, it gained recognition in Malaysia and IEN Consultants managed to build up a team of consultants, most of them Malaysian, who with their experience on the LEO Building, became known further afield. This helped gain further commissions on such projects as the Green Tech Building and what has become known as the Diamond Building in Putrajaya.

“Green Buildings” are perceived to be expensive, both because of the costs of employing the expertise necessary to develop and refine the building and system designs, and because of the relatively high capital costs of green technology items. It takes time for reduced operating costs, which come with reduced energy usage, to counterbalance the increased capital investment and this has been a significant brake on development worldwide. However, given that approximately 40% of worldwide carbon emissions come from buildings, it is clear that there is a need for the “greening” of buildings to

make a significant contribution to carbon reductions.

As a result much effort has gone into the dissemination of green ideas to the Malaysian building industry, including the idea that the advantages of reduction of whole life costs of buildings as opposed to just capital costs are worthwhile. The fact that some “green” input to building design in Malaysia has moved from a subsidised base, using for example Danish funding for the LEO Building and European Union funding for the Green Tech Office Building, to a fully Malaysia funded base in the case of the so-called “Diamond Building” indicates some success in changing attitudes to operating costs vs capital costs ascribed to “Green Buildings”.

Improved energy efficiency is already recognised by the Malaysian government to be more important than mere certification under the Green Building Index (GBI) scheme. That scheme therefore carries tax and stamp duty benefits to encourage the real application of green ideas in the design and operation of buildings.

Beyond this, IEN Consultants is now involved with a UNDP funded project, with the Ministry of Works, to promote low carbon buildings in Malaysia. It is hoped, amongst other things that it will lead to a building code by 2015 specifying much lower carbon footprints even than the LEO Building or the Diamond Building.



Another major area of involvement was in  
**Capacity Building for Malaysian Industry and Academia in EE Building design.**

The objective of the scheme, which was implemented by the Ministry of Energy, Communications and Multimedia (now Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water), was to develop capacity in the optimisation of energy efficient building design. This was done through training sessions, seminars, specific analysis of existing buildings and design development of new buildings. A key partner in this endeavour was the Public Works Department (JKR) and there was close cooperation with Schools Division and Healthcare Division, so the lessons learned were comprehensive, and the dissemination of the results widespread.

The project produced reports outlining design strategies for new buildings, making lessons learned from the LEO Building described above available to practitioners and academics across Malaysia. The project also produced reports on “Energy Efficiency Promotion: Lessons Learned and Future Activities”, and undertook an evaluation of JKR design standards.

The project certainly raised awareness and improved the country's knowledge base regarding energy efficiency in buildings and made recommendations to Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water and JKR to set up demonstration offices, a very successful example of which was in Wisma Damansara.

Book available free online:

<http://um.dk/da/~/media/Malaysia/Documents/Other/Book%20Finalist%20LR.ashx>



# 1/3 Energy Consumption (ST Diamond Building)

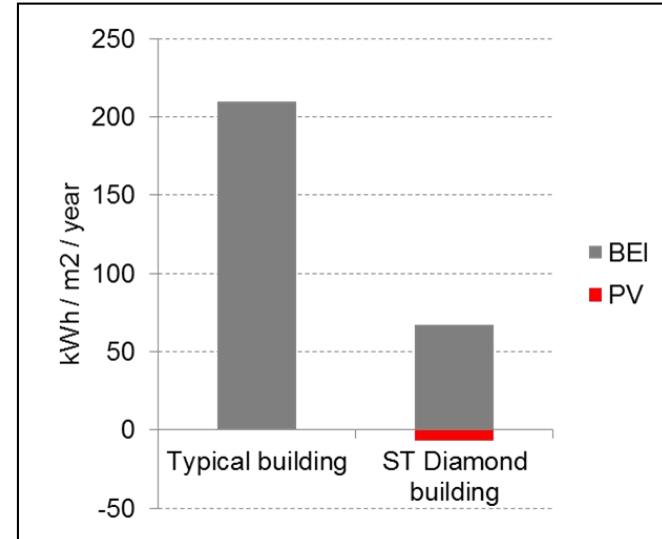
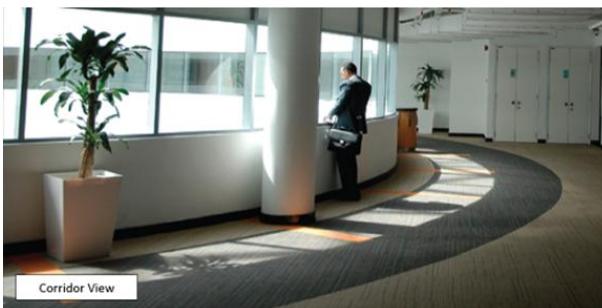


## Key Data

Gross Floor Area: 14,000sqm  
Year of Completion: 2010  
Building Energy Intensity: 69kWh/m<sup>2</sup>\*year  
Total Construction Cost: RM60mil  
Additional EE Cost: 3.2%  
Payback Period: < 3 years  
IRR: 34% (based on 7 year Lease Term)



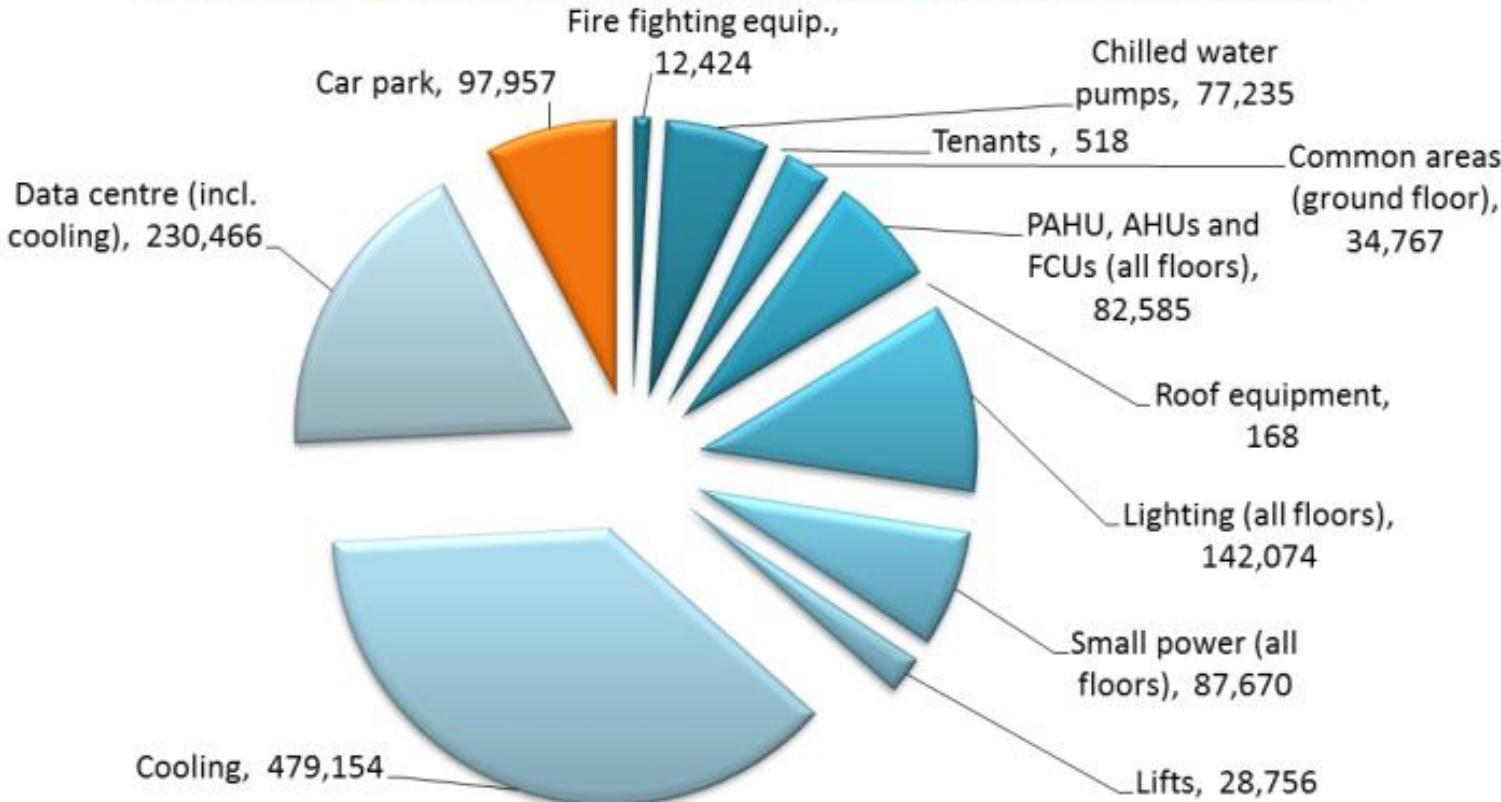
2012  
ASEAN  
energy  
award  
Winner



# Measured Energy Break-down

## ST Diamond Building. Measured Energy Consumptions for year 2011 (kWh/year)

Data marked with orange always excluded from EEI calculation



### Note:

- District cooling has been converted to electricity using SCOP of 3.8

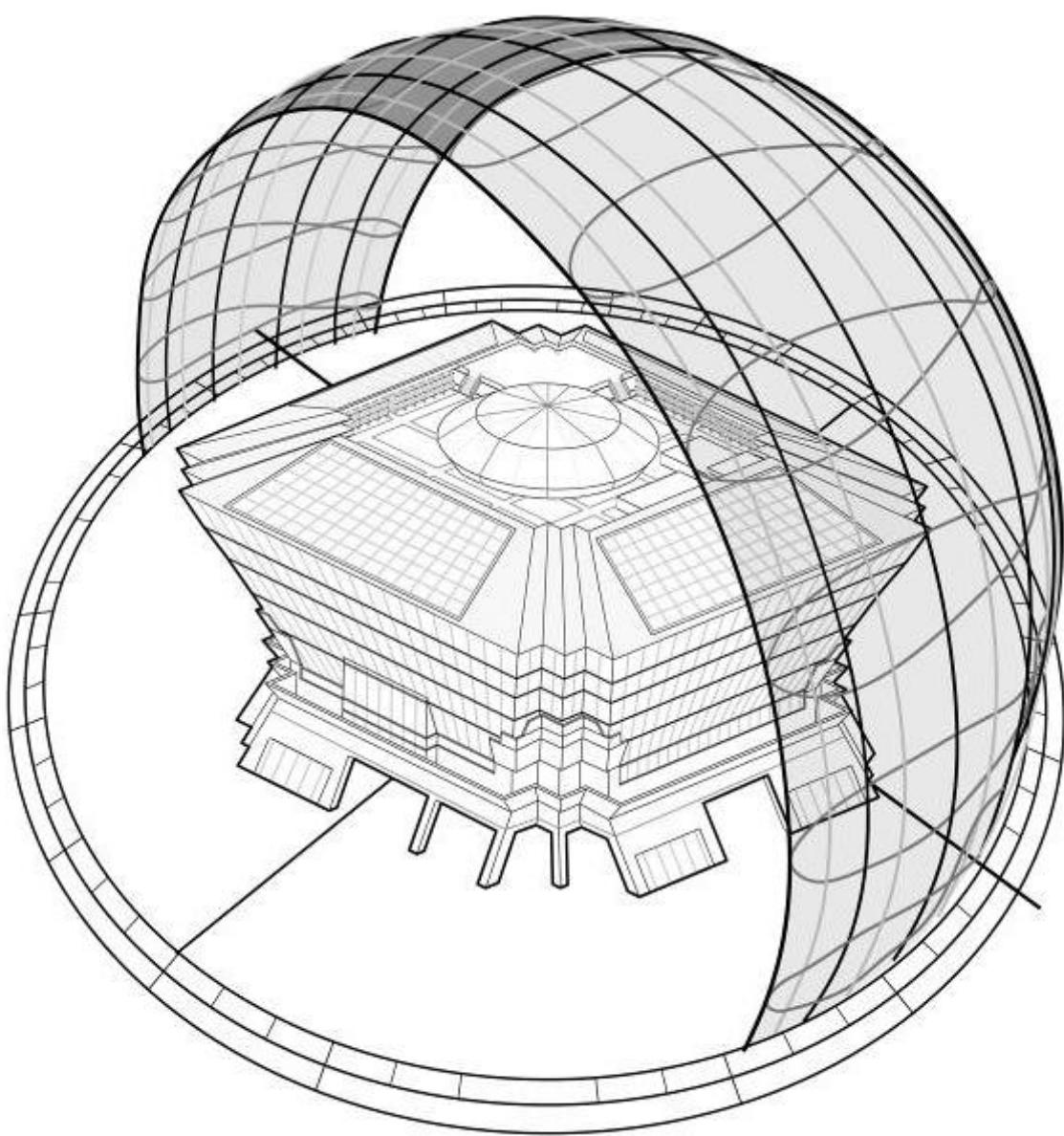
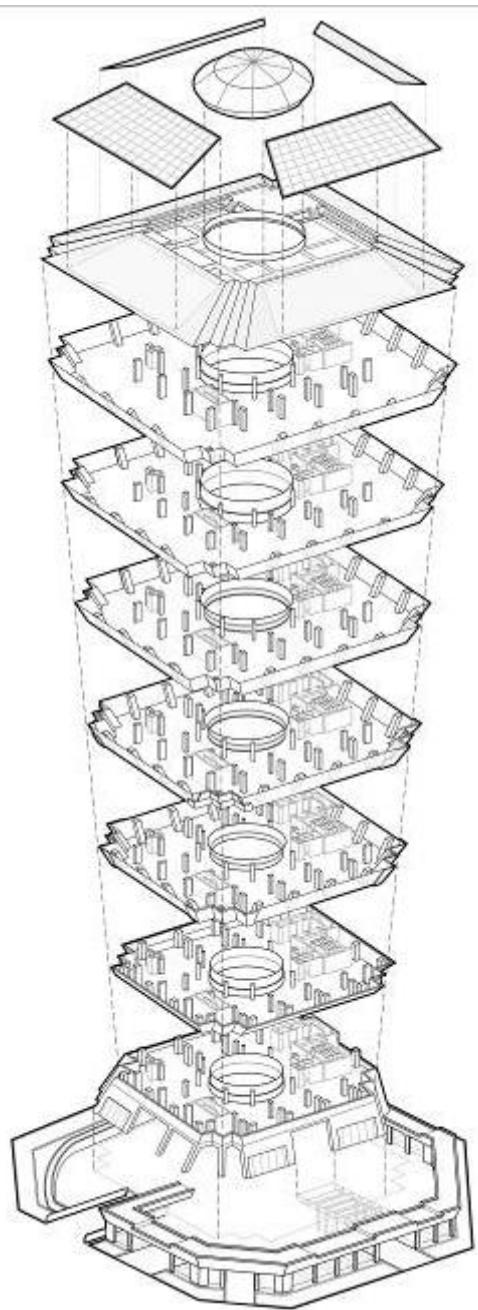
# 3-minute video



Sustainable Features of ST Diamond Building.

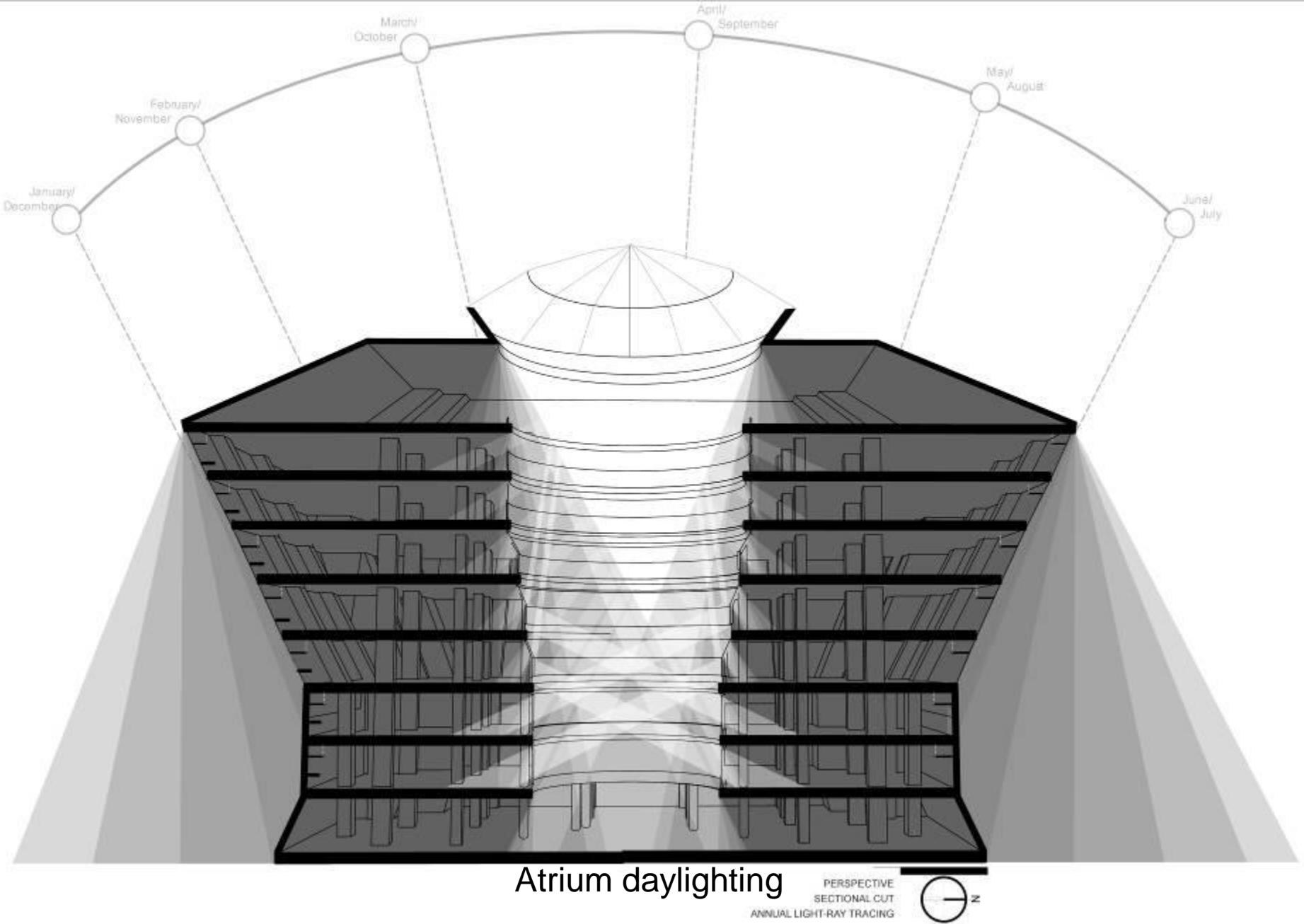
Available at YouTube:

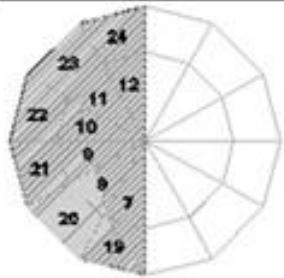
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3H\\_sXCtDayc](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3H_sXCtDayc)



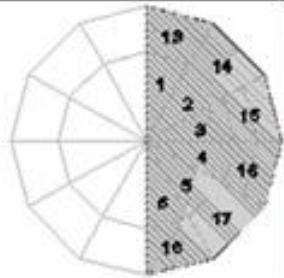
## Self-shading facades

Source: *Greening Asia – Emerging Principles for Sustainable Architecture*.  
Copyright: Nirmal Kishnani, 2012. Publisher: FuturArc

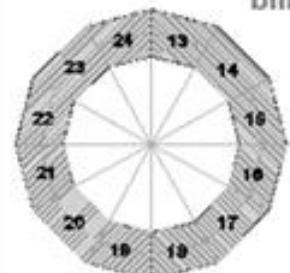




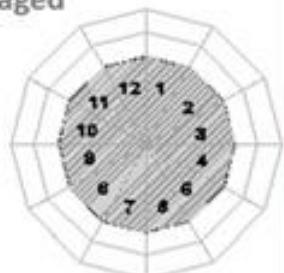
Configuration 01



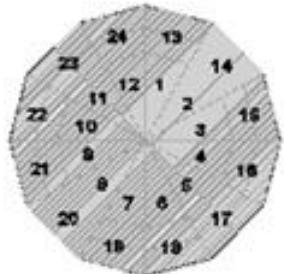
Configuration 02



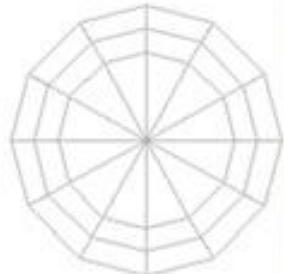
Configuration 03



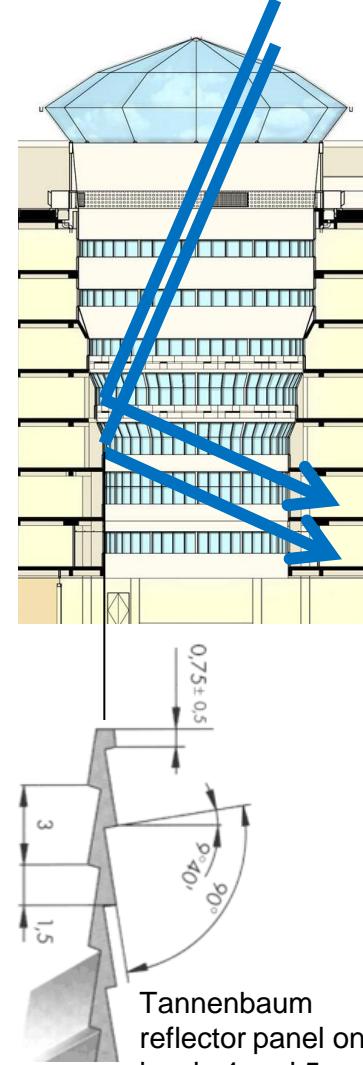
Configuration 04



Configuration 05



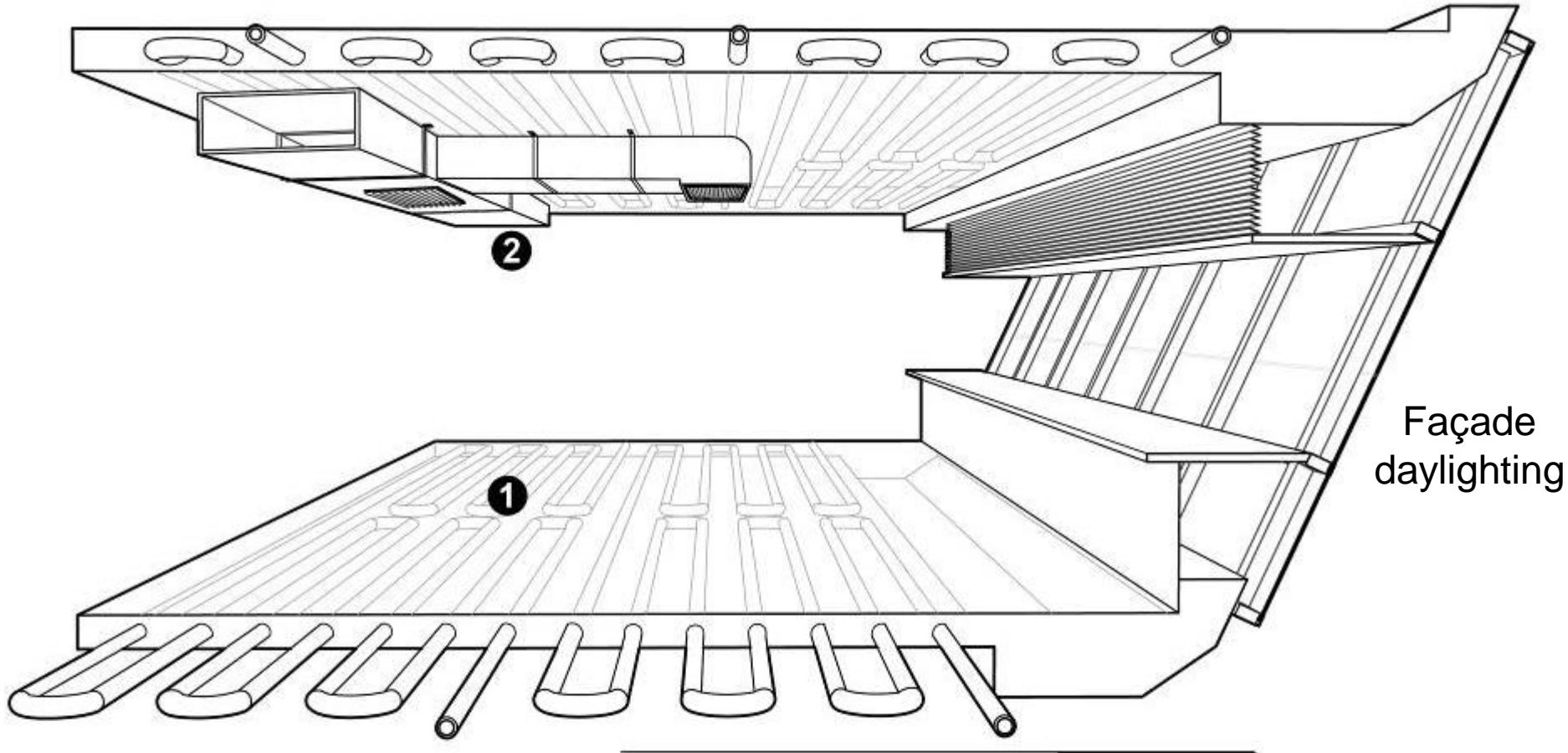
Configuration 06



## Atrium Daylight Design

The atrium has been carefully designed to optimize daylight utilization for each floor employing the combination of the following three strategies:

1. Automated blind with six different configurations to maintain the appropriate daylighting levels at all times. The blinds with 30% light transmittance are adjusted every 15 minutes and follow three different control strategies for morning, mid-day and evening
2. The windows size becomes larger deeper into the atrium to cater for lower daylight levels
3. A band of Tannenbaum reflector panels are applied to 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor to deflect daylight across the atrium to 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floor where daylight levels are the lowest. The 'christmas tree' profile reflectors have an inclination of 10° and reflect about 85% of the light in semi-diffuse manner, hence, avoiding visual glare issues for the building occupants.



ST DIAMOND  
COOLING SYSTEMS

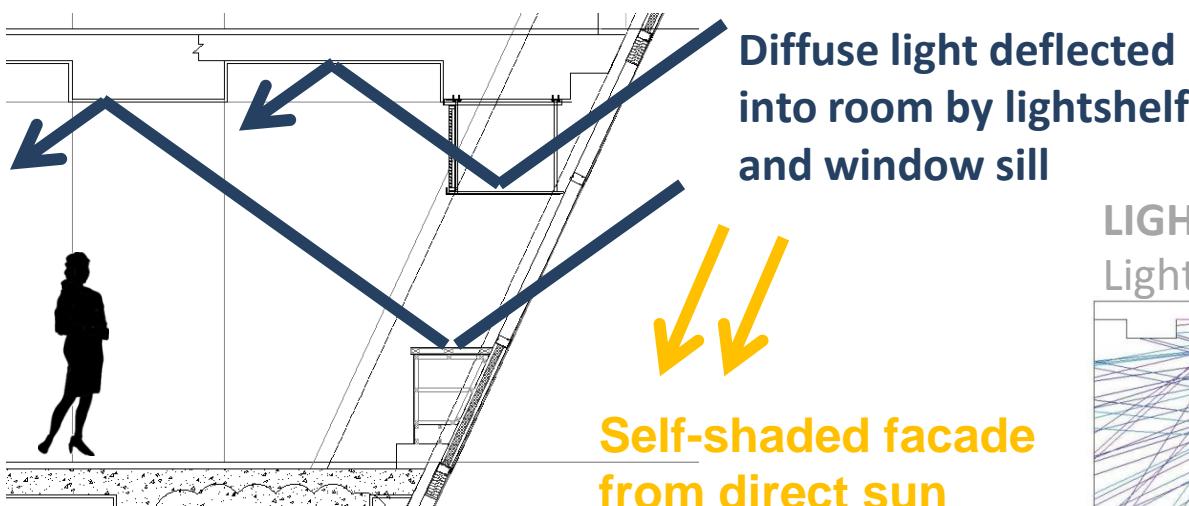


INTERNAL COOLING SYSTEM

FLOORSLAB COOLING 1

MECHANICAL VENTILATION 2

# FACADE

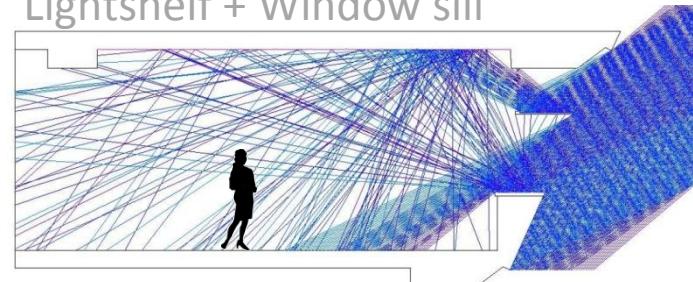


Diffuse light deflected into room by lightshelf and window sill

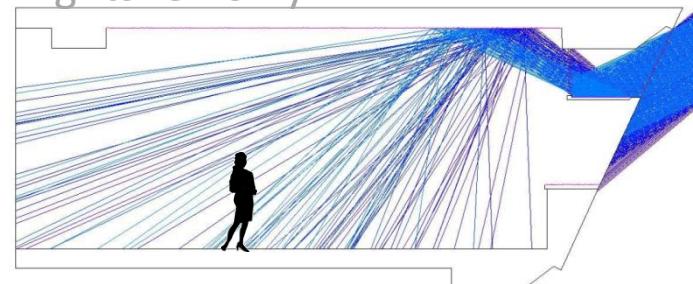
Self-shaded facade from direct sun



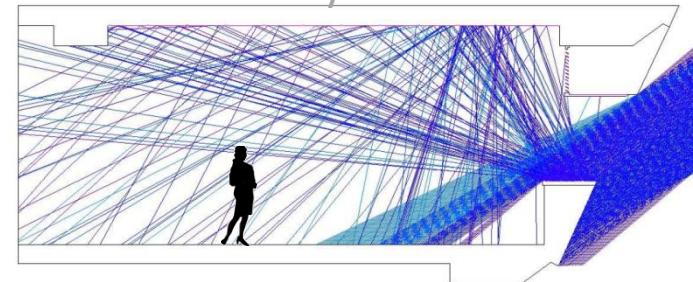
LIGHT REFLECTIONS FROM:  
Lightshelf + Window sill



Lightshelf only



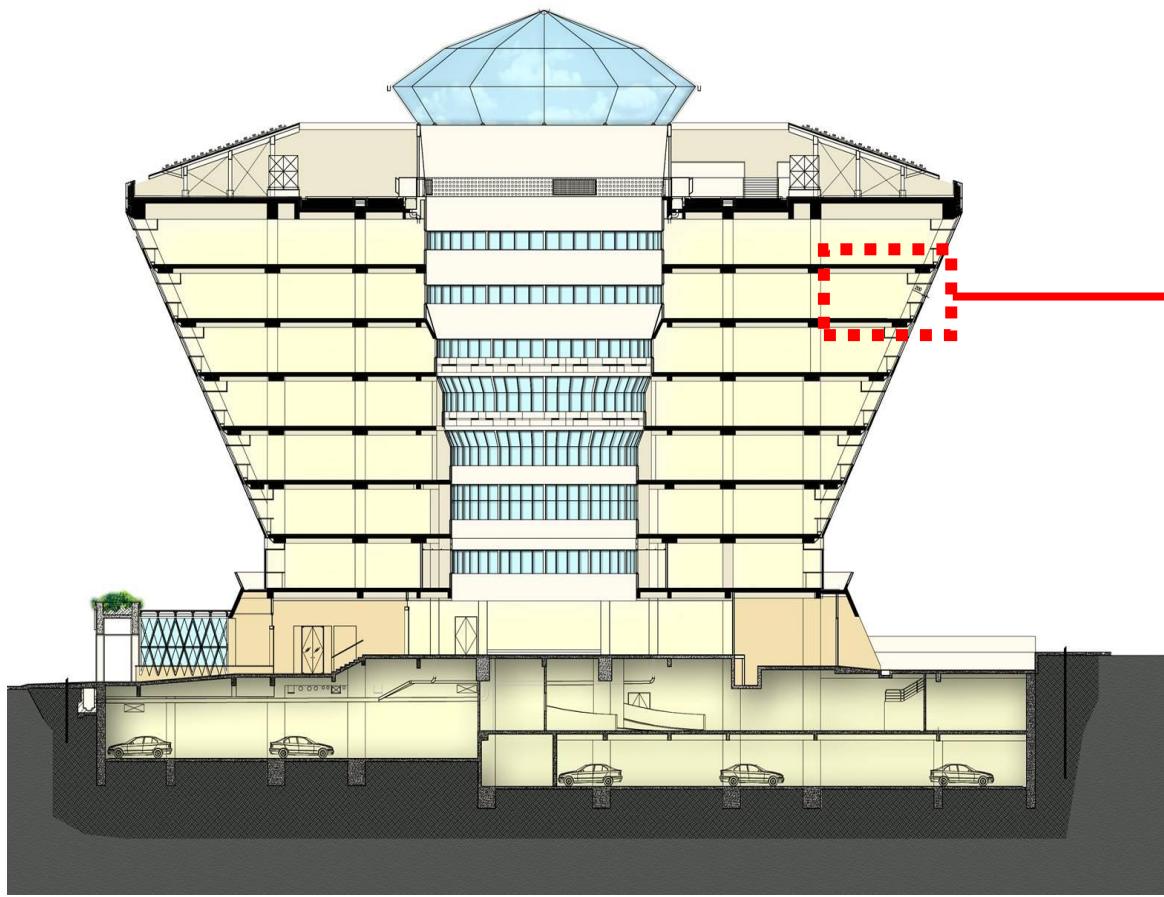
Window sill only



## Façade Daylight Design

The building is 50% daylit. The façade daylighting system consists of a mirror lightshelf and a white painted window sill. Both deflect daylight onto the white ceiling for improved daylight distribution until 5 meters from the façade + 2 additional meters of corridor space. Installed office lighting is 8.4 W/m<sup>2</sup>, but 1-year measurements show consumption of only 0.9 W/m<sup>2</sup> showing high reliance on daylighting

# Day-Lighting- Office



Mirror lightshelf



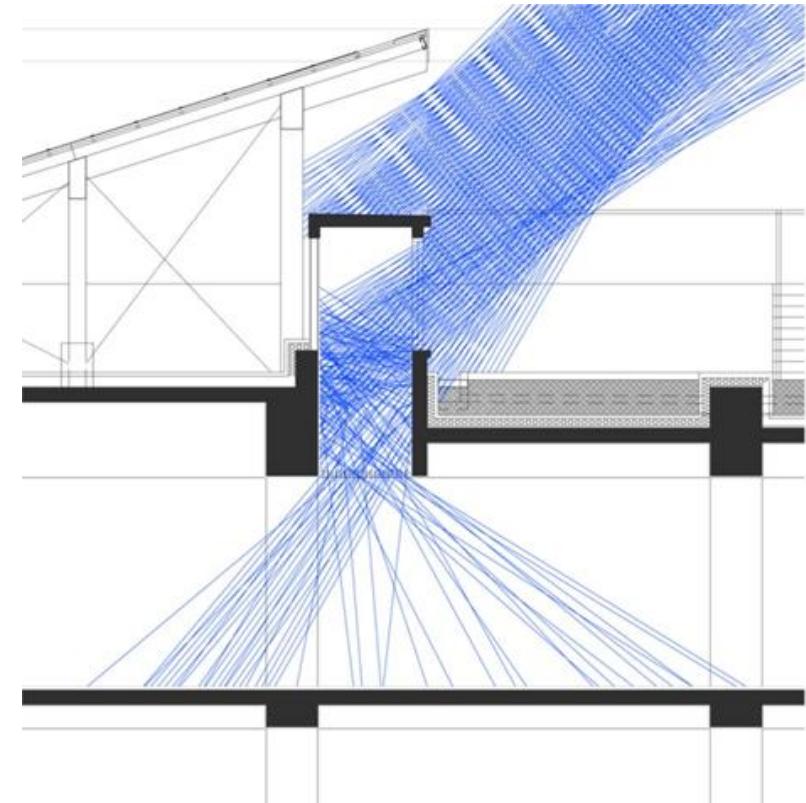
Fixed blinds for glare control



Daylight reflected onto ceiling

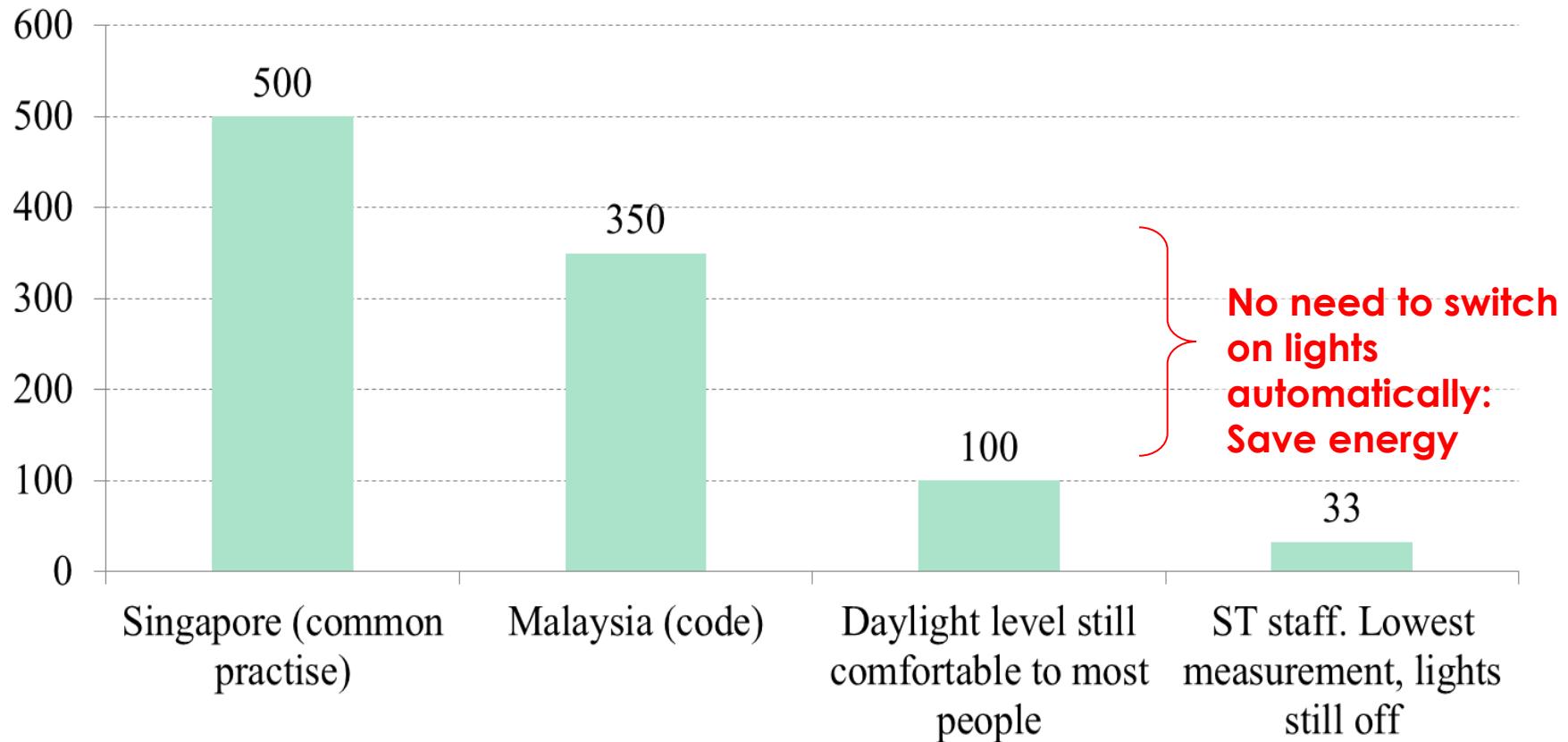
# Daylight Skylight through Roof

Take in diffuse light only



# Lighting Levels

Office (lux)



# Floor Slab Cooling in ST Diamond Building

Floor slab cooling system embedded in RC slab

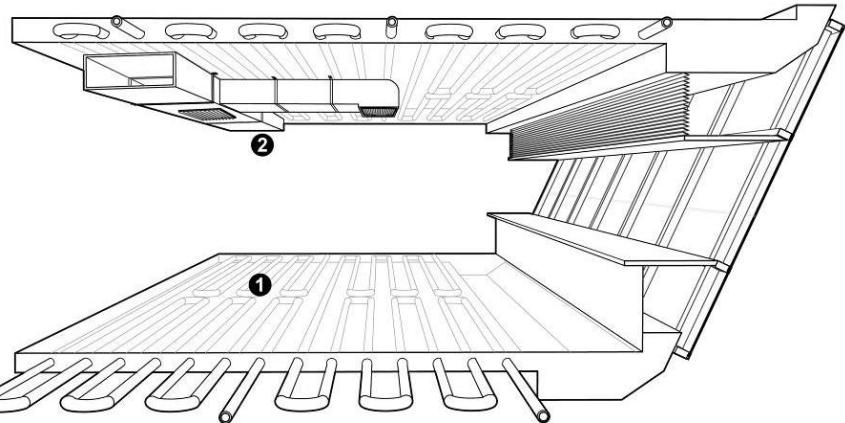
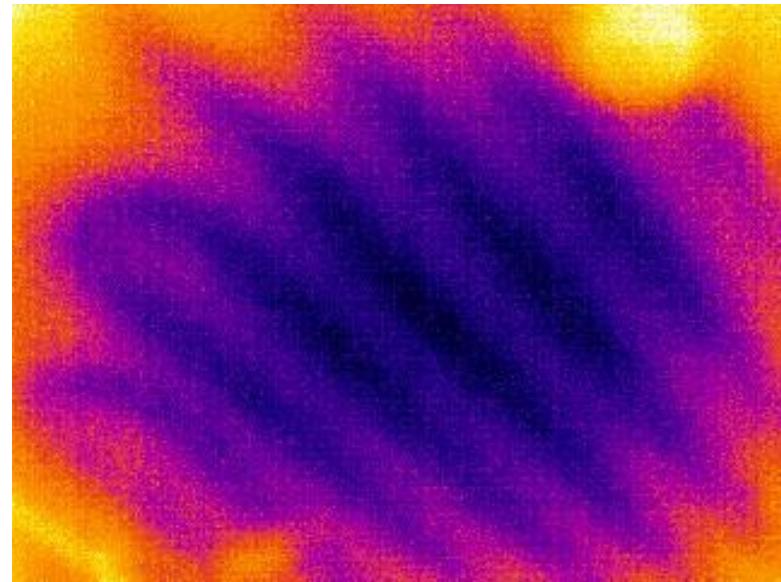


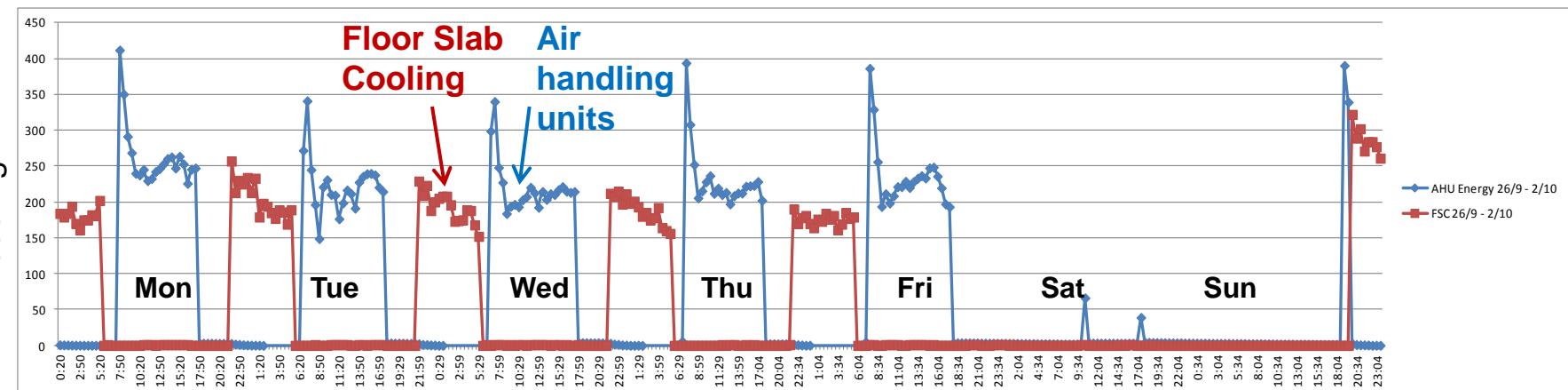
Illustration courtesy of:

Greening Asia – Emerging Principles for Sustainable Architecture.

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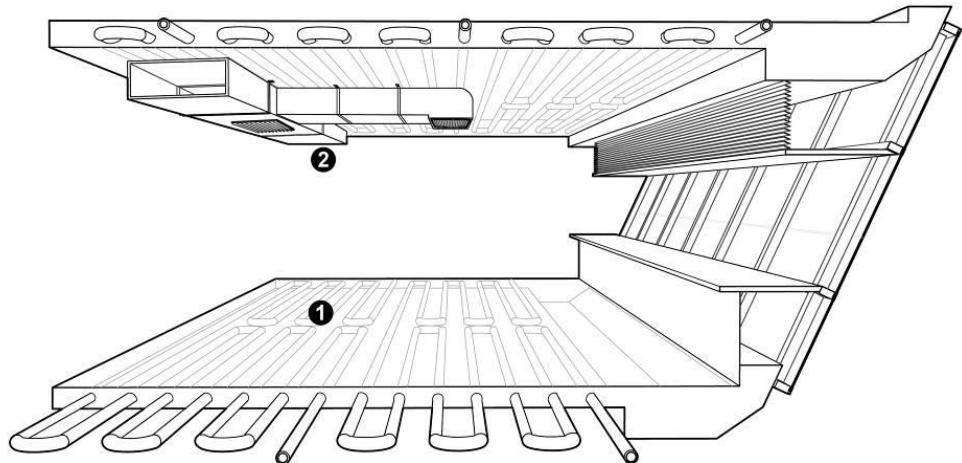


Thermographic image of floor slab cooling in ST Diamond  
Picture courtesy of: PS Soong, Pureaire





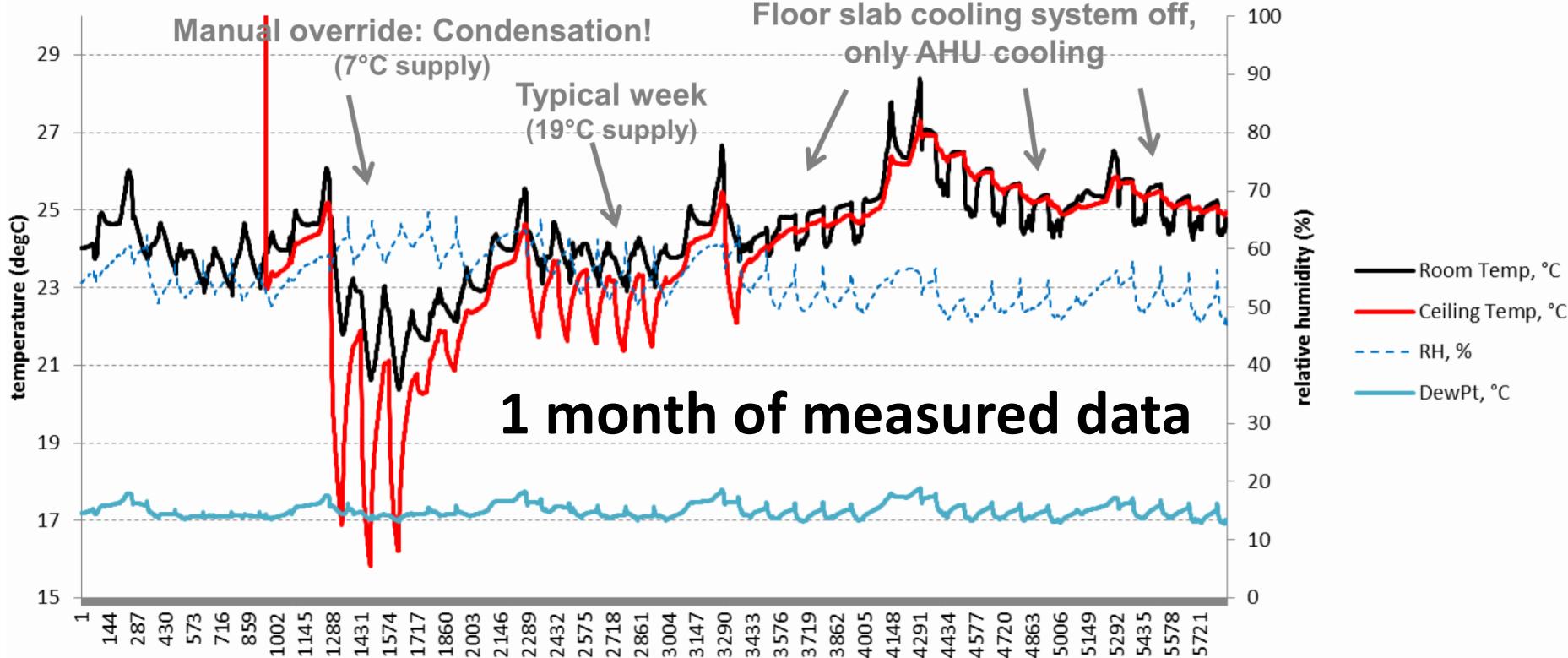
**ST Diamond Building:** Floor slab cooling measurements



Source: Greening Asia – Emerging Principles for Sustainable Architecture.

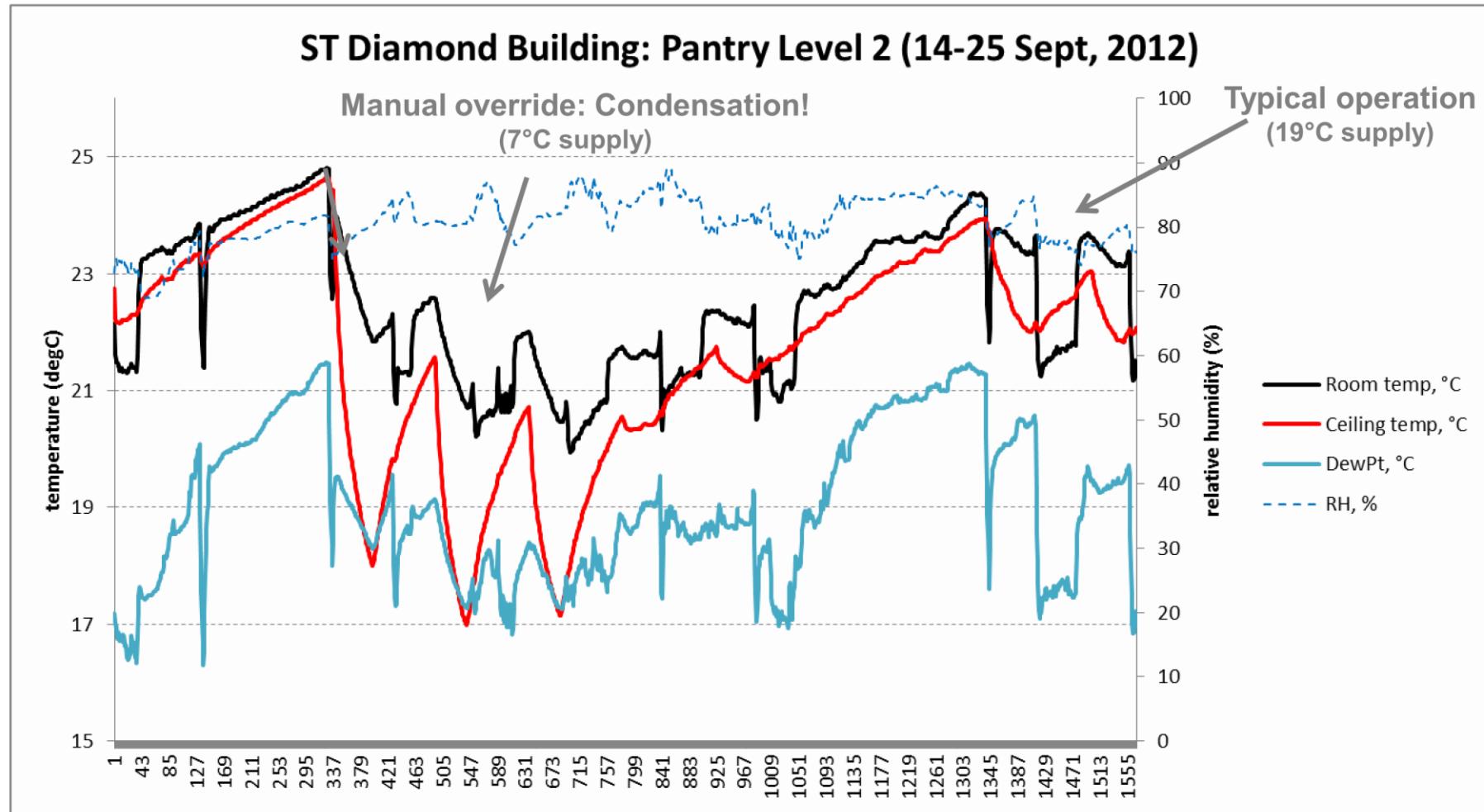
Copyright: Nirmal Kishnani. 2012. Publisher: FuturArc

### ST Diamond Building: Level 6, West, Hamidah room (8 Sept - 18 Oct, 2012)



# Floor Slab Cooling: Condensation accident!

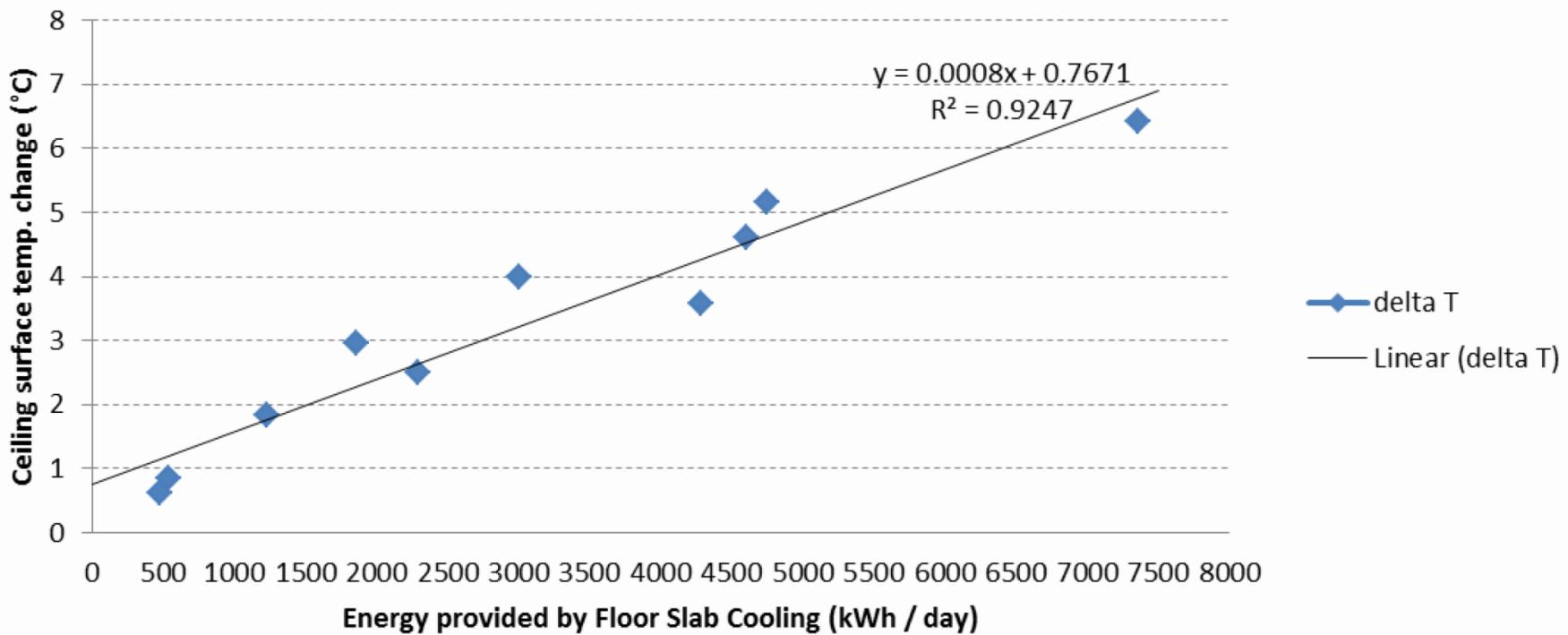
Due to manual override of supply temperature to floor slabs



# Floor Slab Cooling: Measured Correlation

Clear correlation between ceiling surface temperature and Cooling energy

## Ceiling Surface Temperature Change vs Cooling Energy



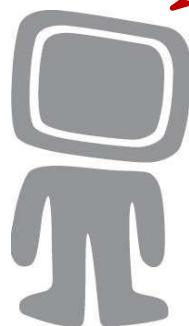
# Final slide: Lessons from Radiant Cooling

1. Radiant cooling can save energy
  - higher COP
  - lower transport energy
  - off-peak cooling
2. Indoor air velocity must not drop, or people will feel uncomfortable from 'stuffy air' or 'lack of air movement'
3. Condensation is a challenge that can be overcome if design and building usage is correct



# Thank you

I will be happy to email  
you the presentation



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